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# THE JERUSALEM POST

**TUNE TO THE BACKWEB**  
THE JERUSALEM POST CHANNEL

VOLUME LXV, NUMBER 19651 WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27, 1996 \$5.00

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## Deal set on convert bill

**By HAIM SHAPIRO and LIAT COLLINS**

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu yesterday agreed in principle to a compromise on the conversion bill that would give equal civil status with other converts to those converted by the Reform and Conservative movements, according to a leading Reform rabbi.

The compromise, which is to be finalized in detail by September 15, was based upon a position paper presented by the non-Orthodox leaders to Netanyahu, coalition chairman Michael Eitan, MK Alex Lubotzky, Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky, and Bobby Brown, the prime minister's adviser on Diaspora affairs. "I believe this is a great gain for us. We are reaching an understanding which has to be approved by the prime minister. We are writing it together," said Rabbi Richard Hirsch, executive director of the World Union for Progressive Judaism (Reform).

Hirsch said that the agreement would, in effect, give equal recognition in Israel to the converts of all the streams of Judaism. According to Hirsch, the religious parties were not a party to the discussions.

According to the draft agreement, a joint committee, with a representative each from the Conservative and Reform movements and representatives of the coalition, would work out a formula based on the principle that non-Orthodox converts would be identified as such in the Interior Ministry's population registry, but not in their identity cards. The negotiators would not include independent figures from the Orthodox world.

"There is no Orthodox figure with sufficient authority who is willing to sit with us," a non-Orthodox source said. For their part, the two movements are to suspend their petitions to the High Court concerning conversion in Israel until the September 15 deadline. The representatives of the two movements did not see the threat of Na'amat, a partner in the petition regarding adopted infants converted by the Conservative movement, not to suspend its petition, as a major problem.

Conservative movement spokeswoman Rabbi Einat Ramon said that the government had shown good will in coming to an agreement and even if the problem was solved for the particular children involved, this would not lead to a long-term solution of the problems of conversion and adoption, which are interrelated.

Earlier yesterday, the Knesset Law Committee held a marathon meeting on the conversion bill attended by representatives of the Conservative and Reform movements. Moshe Gafni (United Torah Judaism) left the room in protest when they were allowed to speak, and called them "clowns" and "liars."

The Conservative and Reform rabbis told the committee that the conversion bill delegitimizes their communities in Israel. Apart from Gafni's outburst, most of the meeting was orderly. Although the compromise idea of freezing the legislative process in return for the suspension of the High Court petitions hovered over it, and it is still not clear that the bill will be presented for second and third readings.

At the end of the meeting, committee chairman Shaul Yahalom said that if no compromise had been found by next week, the committee would meet again to endorse the bill.

## PM, Meridor face off in cabinet

**Finance minister rejects Frenkel plan favored by Netanyahu**

**By JAY BUSHINSKY and SARAH HONIG**

Much of the country's future political and economic direction hung in the balance last night, as the cabinet wrestled with a monetary reform program favored by Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel, but vehemently opposed

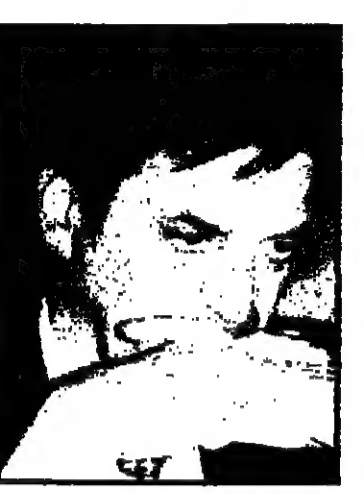
months and that the time has come to make decisions. He noted that there had been an acceleration of this dialogue over the past months, but it was impossible to reach a consensus. "Yesterday in Caesarea we reached several agreements," he said, except with regard to the proposed fluctuation of exchange rates. A situation has been created in which rumors are flying, as a result of which the currency market has been destabilized.

The special cabinet session was called despite the absence of five ministers: Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai is in the US; Communications Minister Limor Livnat is in the Philippines; Transport Minister Yitzhak Levy is in Paris; Education Minister Zevulun Hammer in hospital after surgery; and Tourism Minister Moshe Katsav at a family celebration.

Mordechai and Livnat indicated in messages from abroad that they were anxious to participate in the cabinet debate, implying that moves that could affect the status of a major political ally, Meridor, should not be made in their absence. They cut short their respective trips and arranged to be home tomorrow, in time for



Jacob Frenkel (Isaac Harari)



Dan Meridor (Rivka Pindar)



Binyamin Netanyahu (Israel Sun)

### Barak calls on Meridor to bring down gov't

Labor Party chairman Ehud Barak yesterday urged Finance Minister Dan Meridor and other cabinet members to bring down the government. Barak launched an all-out verbal onslaught on Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and his government during a giant party he threw in Tel Aviv to celebrate his primary victory two weeks ago.

Barak had nothing but praise for Meridor yesterday, as he stood pitted against Netanyahu. Meridor, according to Barak, "is one of the more talented, honest, and brave politicians among all

political parties. I hereby call on him, as well as on all ministers to whom the government's credibility matters, to rise up and do what they know they ought to do. The helm of this country must be returned to more responsible, thoughtful, and experienced hands." He also charged that "Netanyahu is dividing Jerusalem," thus borrowing the Likud slogan of last year, which opened its campaign against then-prime minister Shimon Peres. Sarah Honig

Apart from the economic issues, the cabinet session was seen as the grand showdown between Netanyahu and Meridor, one which had been in the works since well before last year's election, when Meridor was accused of trying to wrest the Likud nomination from Netanyahu. Not Netanyahu's choice for finance minister, he was forced on him by Ze'ev Begin.

The Netanyahu side continued to insist that the intention is not to make it impossible for Meridor to continue in office. Even if the cabinet ruled against him, it was said in Netanyahu's bureau, there is no reason for Meridor not to do the democratic thing, accept the majority verdict and carry on. Prime Minister's Office Director-General Avigdor Lieberman, meanwhile, last evening vehemently denied an Israel Radio report that he had told two ministers several days ago that Meridor would not be finance minister by week's end.

But the consensus yesterday was that if his position is rejected, Meridor would not be able to function as finance minister and implement a policy with which he disagrees and for which he might have to pay the price. Predictions in the government were that Meridor would step down and that a cabinet reshuffle would allow former justice minister Ya'acov Ne'eman back into the cabinet. This could be in the capacity of justice minister, after Tzahi Hanegbi would be moved to the National Infrastructure Ministry and Ariel Sharon would get Finance.



Gaza clashes continue  
A Morag woman argues with a soldier yesterday, as tension between residents of the Gush Katif settlement and Palestinians remained high. Story, Page 2. (AP)

### Terrorist escapes from PA custody

**By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN and news agencies**

IDF troops last night set up roadblocks and launched wide-scale searches in Judea, Samaria, and the Jordan Valley for a terrorist murderer who escaped from Palestinian custody.

Abdel Qaisi, 20, escaped from a Jericho hospital, where he had been taken from prison three days ago for treatment of an ailment which Palestinian officials did not disclose. They said he fled through a window. The Palestinian Authority relayed the information to the IDF, which immediately took action to capture him if he ventured into Israeli-held territory, the IDF Spokesman said.

her 12-year-old son, Ephraim, near Beit El in December.

Qaisi and the second gunman were sentenced to life imprisonment at hard labor. The third man was jailed for 15 years. Security sources said Palestinian forces were looking for Qaisi in Jericho.

Bereaved husband and father Yoel Tzur said last night that Qaisi's escape was not unexpected: "We're not surprised at the escape of the murderer of my wife and son. All of the steps taken by the Palestinian Authority against the murderer were staged, and so was his escape."

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### Exchange-rate rift highlights Meridor, Frenkel battle

**By AMOTZ ASA-EL**

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, Finance Minister Dan Meridor, and Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel yesterday failed to reach agreement on the central bank's request to expand the "bands" (range) within which the shekel is traded.

The three did, however, agree to impose a NIS 600 million budget cut and launch a sweeping foreign currency reform "within one year."

Politically, the dispute is widely seen in light of the strained relations between Meridor and his two interlocutors.

Economically, the controversy over the trading bands stems from the Bank of Israel's accelerated dollar purchases over the past few months, a process which has led the bank to accumulate a record-

high of more than \$16 billion in foreign currency reserves.

Expanded bands would allow the bank to cease purchasing dollars, without sharply reducing interest rates. Meridor, on the other hand, would like to compel the governor

that Israelis will ultimately be allowed to possess unlimited amounts of foreign currency, open bank accounts abroad, and freely trade in financial assets anywhere in the world.

Meanwhile, the agreement among the three to slash the budget by an additional NIS 600m. may also result in renewed discord within the coalition, considering the cuts must come jointly from the defense, education, labor and social affairs, and health budgets, each of which is presided over by parties and individuals who are widely expected to resist that decision.

The need to further cut a budget that was already trimmed by NIS 7.2b. when it was passed stems from the Treasury's wish to rebalance the budget, in order to achieve its self-imposed goal of a deficit which is 2.8% of gross domestic product.

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# Hebron riots enter fourth day

Soldier, border policeman lightly injured

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

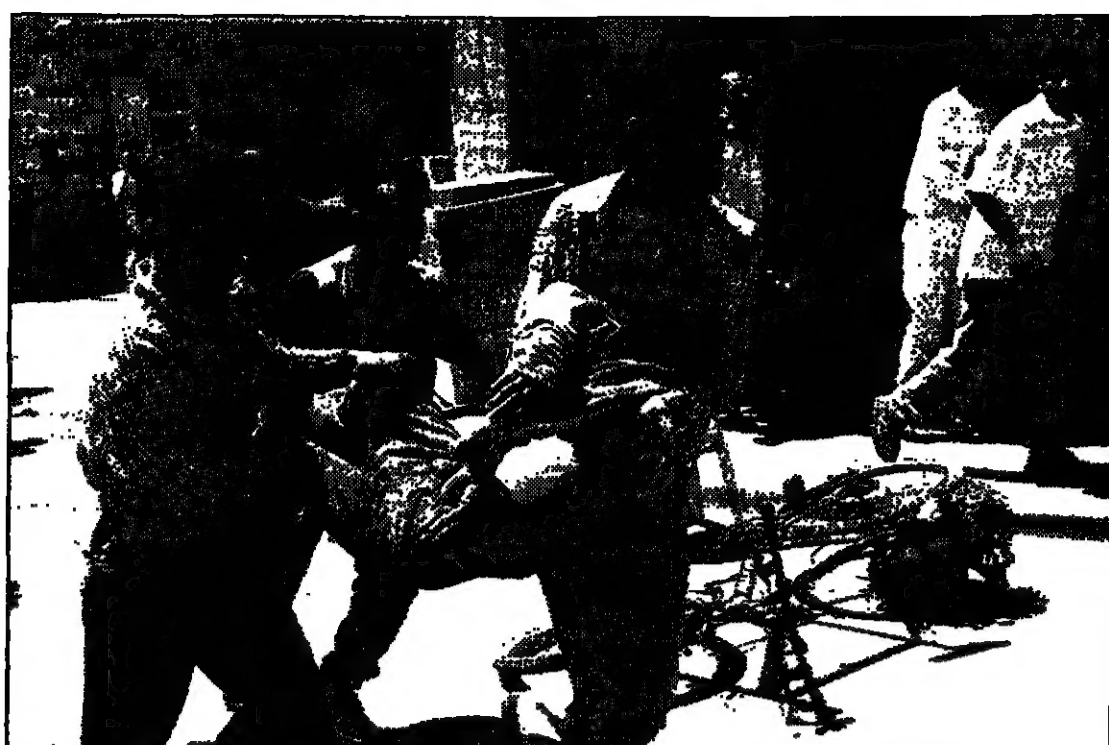
There was fierce rioting in Hebron for the fourth consecutive day yesterday. One border policeman and one IDF soldier were lightly injured in clashes on Shallah Street, not far from Beit Hadassah, the IDF Spokesman said. Palestinian sources claimed up to 30 Palestinians were injured,

while other sources set the number at 19. Two of the Palestinians were seriously hurt, one of them a 12-year-old boy shot in the head with a rubber bullet. Rumors that the boy had died added to the intensity of the clashes toward noon. The riots began in mid-morning and by late afternoon were quelled. "Every day the riots start at the same time, when pupils

have a school break," said one soldier.

According to Hebron Jewish community spokesman Noam Amon, 25 firebombs were hurled at troops. However, the IDF Spokesman could not confirm the number, stating only that firebombs had been thrown at troops and border policemen, who dispersed the rioters with tear gas and rubber bullets.

Amon said the Jewish community demands the Palestinian Police take a firmer hand against the rioters. "Nothing happens to them. There is no deterrence, so they continue to attack our soldiers," he said. As in previous days, there were no Palestinian policemen on hand to stop the rioters from throwing bottles, cans, firebombs, and large rocks at the troops.



A Palestinian boy is rushed to the hospital yesterday after being hit in the head by a rubber bullet fired by a soldier in Hebron. The boy, 12, who was first rumored to have been killed, was later reported to be in serious condition.

## REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK

### 'A game of cat and mouse'

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

A few hundred meters from Beit Hadassah, 10:30 a.m.

Palestinian shopkeepers on Shallah Street close their stores and stand on the sidewalk, looking toward groups of IDF soldiers bulldozing behind metal shutters, dodging the rocks and firebombs being hurled at them. Small groups of Palestinian youths throw bottles and rocks, tin cans and firebombs. They jump out into the road, throw, and run back to hide behind doorways and in alleys. The show has begun.

Mujab Shabin, 17, stands next to his father's store watching as soldiers aim at the rioters. "We want peace," he says, "but what sort of peace is this, with soldiers treating us so badly?" He says the Palestinians are fed up with the deadlock in the peace talks. "Frustration is pushing people to the streets."

An old man, waving his walking stick in the air, walks up to troops on a corner and yells at them to leave. His shouts are ignored. A young woman clasps her baby close to her chest and dodges behind the troops, opting to take the side road away from the riots.

A large explosion is heard, a firebomb drops in front of a group of soldiers sheltering behind a metal shutter for protection from the stones.

One of the soldiers points to a Palestinian youth with a slingshot in his hand, aiming at the soldiers. "There he is," says a soldier to his friend, who aims his weapon. In a split second, the youth disappears. "It's a game of cat and mouse," says a soldier. "I've been here for three months; in another few weeks, we leave and go to Lebanon. At least there the rules are different. Someone fires at you, you shoot the heck out of him; here we can't do anything. That's why they continue to riot."

A youth waving a tattered Israeli flag jeers at the troops, and proceeds to burn it. A shot rings out; the youth falls and others rush to his aid and scoop him up.

Two international observers sit on a curb behind the troops, watching the clashes, their faces hot and red, their expressions somber.

Another group of soldiers runs down a side road where stones are being thrown. Shots are fired, and the smell of tear gas hovers in the air. A Border Police unit runs toward the rioting Palestinians, waving at the soldiers. "We'll do

the work for you," one shouts.

More explosions, a homemade bomb, broken glass and stones.

Palestinian television crews and foreign network cameramen race toward the action wearing bright colored plastic hats to protect their heads from the stones. There are no Palestinian policemen to be seen. A sole Palestinian municipal worker wearing an orange armband attempts to move the crowd away. "Get away from here," he yells, shoving a little boy.

Walking back towards Avraham Avinu, past Beit Hadassah, along the dusty road. At Gross Square, it's business as usual, with cars and trucks passing by.

Soldiers stand on guard, alert. Two children from Avraham Avinu run into the road; a truck races toward them. A soldier jumps into the road and stops the truck, urging the children to cross quickly.

Once they reach the soldier, he picks them up and chides them for not checking for traffic before crossing. "You must never run across the road like that; you could have been killed."

Yes, H2 is different; life is more orderly. Yet only a few minutes away, the soldier's comrades' lives are in danger. In H1, there are other rules.

## Land of Israel Front MKs visit Morag

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

MKs of the Land of Israel Front and settlement leaders planted olive trees at Morag in Gush Katif yesterday, as Palestinians jeered and threw stones.

The MKs and heads of the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria, and Gaza paid a solidarity visit to Morag and met with residents.

The Palestinians, who have repeatedly torn down a fence surrounding its hothouses, claim the fence is on their land and erected protest tents some weeks ago. The claim has been rejected by the IDF. Residents of Morag fear the Palestinians may attack those tending the hothouses, and have demanded that the IDF remove them.

On Monday night, settlers fed up with the situation erected a tent in protest, demanding that the IDF remove the Palestinians. Some of the residents claim they are considering constructing a new neighborhood on the site.

As MKs planted the olive trees, the Palestinians started throwing stones at them, and soldiers acting as a buffer between the Palestinians and the settlers asked them and the council leaders to leave, fearing an escalation in violence.

In addition, some 100 Palestinians staged a sit-in outside the settlement to protest what they

said was confiscation of their land. Reports from Gaza said troops fired tear gas to disperse the demonstrators.

The MKs and council leaders were upset when OC Southern Command Maj.-Gen. Shlomo Yanai forbade their plan to land at Neveh Dekalim, directing it to Sde Te'eman near Beersheba.

The MKs said they were outraged, claiming that the muddled leadership has turned the IDF into a frustrated army. They promised Gush Katif residents they would shower the Knesset with motions demanding the situation be dealt with as soon as possible.

"It is clear that the Egyptian influence on the negotiations has resulted in the Palestinians using a war of attrition approach," said council spokesman Yehiel Leiter.

Meanwhile, another group of Palestinians set up a protest tent at the entrance to Gush Katif junction where a monument in memory of soldier Yehuda Levy who was killed in rioting last September, was dedicated last week.

Arieh O'Sullivan adds: The government coordinator of activities in the territories Maj.-Gen. Ya'acov Orr and other top officers toured the Gush Katif area and later met with senior Palestinian officials and policemen in the Gaza Strip to try to come to an arrangement on ending the running clashes around Morag.

Orr, accompanied by Col. Dov Tzedaka, head of the Gaza district coordinating office, met with Jamil Tarifi, who is responsible for civilian affairs for the Palestinian Authority.

## US redirects Israeli, Egyptian foreign aid to Jordan

By HILLEL KUTTLER

WASHINGTON - Jordan will soon begin receiving an additional \$100 million in annual US aid, to be supplied by assistance redirected from the Israeli and Egyptian economic packages, the White House announced yesterday.

The amount is over and above the \$70 million already budgeted for aid to Jordan in the next fiscal year. It resulted from King Hussein's having told President Bill Clinton during their meeting here on April 1 that Jordanians were not seeing the economic benefits of peace with Israel.

The dollars will go into and be distributed from a new Middle East Peace and Stability Fund, Clinton announced yesterday. In a statement, Clinton said the fund will "respond to urgent needs in that region. The fund's initial focus will be on assisting Jordan as it pursues economic modernization and reform." He also said that over time the fund "will be flexible enough to be used to support other regional priorities as needed."

While wary of setting a precedent of even a token cut in their economic aid packages, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak supported the plan, which was made public a month ago. Neither's military aid package is affected.

Clinton is to discuss details of the plan in a White House meeting today with Crown Prince Hassan.

## NEWS

in brief

### Mordechai to visit Paris Air Show

Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai travels today from the US to Paris, where he will meet newly appointed counterpart Alain Richard and other top French ministers and military chiefs. Mordechai will be the first Israeli minister to meet with the new Socialist government. On his one-day visit, Mordechai will also attend the 42nd Paris Air Show. Under the previous government, Israel and France had started to develop warmer defense relations and were working to increase military trade.

The US Army carried out a large field exercise yesterday in honor of Mordechai's visit to Fort Hood, where he was also shown an ultra-modern command and control center. *Arieh O'Sullivan*

### OC Navy meets with 'Dakar' families

The US Navy-assisted search for the missing IDF submarine Dakar is to start next month in the Aegean Sea, using a special research submarine to scan the ocean floor for any signs of the wreckage.

OC Navy Admiral Alex Tal told the families of the 69 missing Dakar sailors on Monday that they would be allowed to board the research submarine when it calls at Haifa in July, the IDF Spokesman said yesterday. The Dakar disappeared in the Mediterranean in 1968 on its maiden voyage from England. *Arieh O'Sullivan*

### UN investigators weren't hindered by gov't rules

The UN Secretariat's difficulties in preparing a report on the Har Homa housing project, as required by the General Assembly, was due to its demand for a free hand in investigating all settlement activity here rather than to excessive Israeli restrictions, a senior Foreign Ministry aide said yesterday.

Undersecretary-General for Political Affairs Kieran Prendergast's decision not to conduct an on-scene probe was taken despite the June 25 deadline set by the world organization for a UN report on the settlement issue.

"If they choose to come, they will be able to deal with Har Homa and then leave," said the Foreign Ministry's Freddy Eitan. *Jay Bushinsky*

### Settler acquitted in attack on Palestinian

Shneur Katz, 28, of Shilo, was acquitted yesterday by Tel Aviv District Court of charges he attacked a Palestinian news photographer during a demonstration in Samaria last July. Judge Oded Mudrick accepted a video film of the incident as proving Katz did not harm the photographer. Another settler, Adi Yarden, was previously convicted of attacking the photographer with an iron bar and breaking his camera. *Itim*

### Youth killed in crash

Kamal Abulgan, 17, was killed Monday night and his brother Yitzhak, 24, was moderately injured when their van flipped over near Beersheba. A passerby freed the brothers from the wreck and brought them to Soroka Hospital, but Kamal died on the way.

Seven people were injured yesterday evening in a three-vehicle collision near Saknin. The injured were taken to Nahariya Government Hospital, where three are in serious condition, two in moderate condition, and two are being treated for light injuries. *Itim*

### Od Yosef Chai students protest

Students at the Od Yosef Chai yeshiva in Joseph's Tomb set up a protest tent at the Elon Moreh junction outside Nablus yesterday, saying they will continue their Torah studies in the tent until they are permitted to enter the compound. The IDF closed Joseph's Tomb to yeshiva students and worshippers, fearing violence would escalate in the area. According to reports, Palestinians are preventing vehicles from entering and leaving the compound. *Margot Dudkevitch*

### Remands extended for alleged land dealer killer

Jerusalem Magistrate's Court yesterday extended by two days the remand of Hadar Ouda, a Palestinian Authority intelligence operative who is suspected of kidnapping in connection with the recent murders of land dealers.

Gidrawi Hashem, who is suspected of similar offenses, was remanded for two additional days on Monday. Both are from Atarot. *Itim*

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The consecration of the tombstone  
(30th day of mourning) of  
**MONICA SINGER**  
will take place at 15.30 on Friday, 20th June  
at her grave on "Moshav Yanuv"

Our beloved  
**SALLY (Shlomo)  
KATZENGOLD**  
is no more  
The funeral has already taken place.  
**The Heartbroken Family**  
Shiva at 53 King David Boulevard, Tel Aviv.

With great sorrow we announce the passing of  
**DINA ZUSSMAN** דני  
wife of Ya'akov (Jack) Zussman יא  
one of the founders of the Hebrew University  
on Mount Scopus  
who passed way in the fullness of time.  
The funeral took place yesterday in Jerusalem.  
Mourning by her:  
Daughter: **Meira and  
Professor David M. Serr**  
Son: **Effie and Tiki Zussman**  
Grandchildren: **Ronnie, Yoni, Koby, Yaeli, Koby**  
Great-grandchildren: **Morot, Michal, Aucher,  
Yay, Jonathan, Lior, and Danielle**  
Sister: **Lieja and Norbert Krieger**

**JCC Association**  
mourns the passing of  
**FRANCES FINKELSTEIN**  
of Minneapolis  
and sends condolences to its  
Executive Vice President  
**Allan Finkelstein**  
and the family

We deeply mourn the untimely passing of our dear  
daughter, sister, granddaughter and aunt  
**RUSSIE CHAIT** ריט  
who was tragically taken from us at a young age.  
Mourning by the Chait, Wolfset, Zwick and Shurin families  
Shiva at 14/17 Rehov Agassi, Har Nof.  
Rabbi Chaim Ozer and Teily Chait and family

The Jewish Agency for Israel  
The World Zionist Organization  
mourn the passing of  
**YITZHAK RAGER**  
Mayor of Beersheba  
and extend condolences to the family  
Charles (Corky) Goodman  
Chairman of the Board of Governors  
Avraham Burg  
Chairman of the Executive

The Jewish Agency for Israel  
The World Zionist Organization  
extend sincere condolences to  
**Yitzhak Peretz**  
on the passing of his mother  
**FRECHA** פרי  
Charles (Corky) Goodman  
Chairman of the Board of Governors  
Avraham Burg  
Chairman of the Executive

## SOCIAL & PERSONAL

THE WEEKLY MEETING of the English-speaking Jerusalem Rotary Club will take place today at 1:00 p.m. at the YMCA, King David Street. Distribution of Allocations and Vocational Excellence Award.

מזכרון תשלום



## NEWSLINE

With Ezra Sadan, former director-general of the Treasury.

By JENNIFER FRIEDLIN

If the diagonal band is widened, what will happen to the shekel exchange rate?

I wouldn't know specifically, but I don't think we will see any depreciation.

Why do some people oppose widening the band?

The Ministry of Finance insists that [Bank of Israel Governor Jacob] Frenkel lower interest rates in exchange for a widening of the band. But the Ministry of Finance should balance its budget and resort to the instruments it has at its disposal, rather than just saying no to Frenkel's proposals. In the last five years, the Ministry of Finance did not develop a single instrument through which to deal with the effects of a widened band.

In the long run, there is no escaping widening the band, but that means the government will gradually lose control over the shekel's exchange rate.

On the one hand, people say they are for deregulation, but when it comes to actually implementing it, they are shocked by the fact that the government will lose control.

What are the benefits of such a move?

I think that in the long run, Frenkel is right; if we want to maintain our position as a Western economy, we have to take these steps. A widened band will allow the shekel to find its natural market position without Bank of Israel interventions.

Will a more freely floating shekel result in capital flight?

There is no doubt in my mind that widening the band is an exercise designed to trim excess foreign currency reserves.

Israel has accumulated \$16 billion as a result of the Bank of Israel's market interventions. This money sits relatively idly and is not helping induce economic growth.

The Ministry of Finance also wants to reduce the foreign currency reserves, but it suggests achieving this by reducing interest rates.

Are exporters' fears that with widened trading bands the shekel will appreciate well founded?

We have to remind the industrialists that 25 years ago union leaders and farmers opposed the signing of various free-trade agreements, and then they adjusted to them.

In the short run, these groups may ask for a smooth change rather than jump into cold water, but this is not always possible. If people find they are in the wrong business, they will have to adjust.

The Ministry of Finance says that if interest rates are high, industrialists are not keen on investing and spending.

But if interest rates are lowered and inflation rises to 10% or 15%, the industrialists will say, "What do we care?"

## BACKGROUND

## The diagonal mechanism

By AMOTZ ASA-EL

In order to keep the shekel exposed to some market forces, but at the same time prevent it from fluctuating too sharply, the Bank of Israel created the so-called diagonal mechanism.

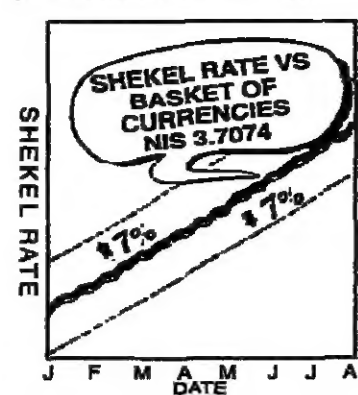
By measuring the difference between Israel's expected annual inflation and the leading foreign economies' actual inflation, the bank created a diagonal line which spans the entire fiscal year, and imposed 7 percent bands above and under it. That is the realm within which the central bank allows the shekel's exchange rate to fluctuate, towards its basket of five leading world currencies.

In other words, at a given moment the shekel's optimal exchange rate, from the bank's viewpoint, should be the point on the diagonal which represents that moment, and its actual rate would be above or under it, according to the markets' whims.

If the markets try to push the shekel to the upper band's limit, which from the bank's viewpoint

would imply an excessively weak currency, the bank would intervene in trading, by buying shekels, and thereby artificially raising their price.

Conversely, should the markets pull the shekel toward the bottom



end of the trading bands, the bank would perceive the shekel as excessively strong and consequently sell shekels.

The latter scenario is the one we have been witnessing for the past few months, during which the central bank has sold so many

shekels, and bought so many dollars, that Israel's foreign currency reserves have hit an all-time high of more than \$16 billion.

Frenkel's aim, therefore, was to expand the bands, and thereby cease to buy dollars, while sticking to his guns on the interest rate front.

Meridor's aim, however, was to induce Frenkel to significantly lower interest rates, making the shekel less attractive to traders and thereby causing it to depreciate on the markets.

In this, the finance minister represents the interests of exporters, who are injured in the short term by a strong currency since their revenues are in foreign currencies, while their expenses, particularly wages, are in shekels.

In the event that the shekel actually becomes fully convertible, as Netanyahu yesterday promised to make the Israeli currency "within one year," the diagonal mechanism would be obsolete since the exchange rate would be determined by the markets alone.

## Two no-confidence motions submitted

By LIAT COLLINS

Labor and Meretz have submitted no-confidence motions in the prime minister over his economic policy.

Labor faction chairman Ra'anana Cohen entitled his motion: "The danger of economic collapse." He said the steep rise in unemployment and the dispute between the Bank of Israel and the Treasury over interest and monetary policies creates a threat to the whole economy.

Meretz faction chairman Haim Oron criticized Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu saying he "prefers leaking details of his policies to actually carrying them out."

He said the government is carrying out a "zig-zag policy which will bring about political disaster and a deep economic crisis. The prime minister is dealing with the status of Finance Minister Dan Meridor in the government, rather than the state of the thousands joining the ranks of the unemployed."

## HEBREW PRESS REVIEW

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

## Smelling like a rose.

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu has the knack of emerging from every debacle smelling like a rose. Ha'aretz columnist Yoel Marcus observed yesterday.

Marcus noted Netanyahu is the first prime minister whom the High Court of Justice said it would not be unreasonable to indict. Yet after five months of investigation in which Netanyahu himself was a suspect, and despite the conspiracy to damage the rule of law, and the High Court's giving additional validity to the harsh report written by Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein and State Attorney Edna Arbel, the prime minister emerged unscathed.

Marcus regrets that, from the outset, a large part of the public failed to grasp the severity of the Bar-On report. "The earth didn't shake after the lethal Rubinstein-Arbel report, and will not tremble after the High Court ruling left us a prime minister who remains in office on grounds of reasonable doubt," Marcus notes dryly that if anyone entertains hopes of raising the moral level of government conduct following the Bar-On affair, he will discover that Netanyahu has other plans to distract public opinion.

On the day of the High Court ruling, he points out, Yediot Aharonot came out with the bombshell of a revolutionary economic plan "attributed to a senior source in the Prime Minister's Office" who looks like Bibi and talks like Bibi. The essence of this plan, suggests Marcus, is casting doubt on Dan Meridor's remaining in office as finance minister. Marcus adds that Netanyahu is determined to "make order" in his cabinet, and his proposed cabinet reshuffle will provide the next story on the public agenda.

A big mistake  
Ma'ariv columnist Yosef Lapid states bluntly that kicking Meridor out of the Treasury and cabinet would be the act of a bully defying all humane, professional, or electoral logic.

Lapid says the public sees Meridor as an honest, decent, and amiable man, who did reasonably well in his post despite the large deficit left him by his predecessor.

But the worst mistake Netanyahu would be making in getting rid of Meridor lies in the fact that he is today the only one in the Likud leadership who is supported by the transient center of the political map, which is essential to winning the elections.

Lapid warns the government not

to delude itself that a freeze of the peace process is a solution. He says the mini-intifada in Hebron and Gaza this week is only a prologue for much more severe events and will soon lead to a frontal confrontation.

## The empty promise

Ha'aretz columnist Hanna Kim portrays Yisrael Ba'aliya chairman and Industry and Trade Minister Nathan Sharansky as an empty promise. Sharansky, who had promised to fight against religious coercion and for the rule of law, was the spoonful of sugar supposed to sweeten the bitter pill of this government's right-wing-haredi-religious coalition. But so far Sharansky has fulfilled none of his promises, including those to improve the housing and employment plight of new immigrants.

Kim notes that Netanyahu owes Sharansky his election victory, showing how Yisrael Ba'aliya worked closely with the Likud in the campaign, sharing the same apparatus and even several of the same contributors.

She points out that Netanyahu's right-hand man, Avigdor Lieberman, was also an executive member of the Zionist Forum, a body Sharansky headed and used to found his party, Yisrael Ba'aliya Immigration Minister Yuli Edelstein was Netanyahu's adviser, and with these two Sharansky planned to take over the new immigrant vote.

Kim also reveals that sources close to Netanyahu said at the time that he was interested in setting up an immigrants' party as a "satellite party" to help him get elected prime minister.

Kim concludes that although he would be the last minister to want new elections, Sharansky had to create this coalition crisis, in view of growing unemployment and the government's cancellation of employment budgets for new immigrants, as well as the violation of other commitments.

Israelis par-excellence  
Ma'ariv satirical columnist Efraim Sidon, on the other hand, cites the Russian immigration as an example of speedy and successful integration. There are two sure signs of this, says Sidon.

The first is a coalition crisis and threats to quit the government over political appointments. The second, more important, sign is that when investigations begin, from which the fair aroma of corruption arises, those involved immediately accuse veteran Israelis of racism, persecution, and condescension.

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# Amnesty Int'l issues 1996 report

Says that 'torture of Palestinians in Israeli jails continues to be systematic'

By Jerusalem Post Staff

Amnesty International yesterday published its yearly report on human rights abuses in 1996. The 378-page report details violations by more than 200 governments. Today, the report will be presented to Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein.

AI is a worldwide voluntary movement, claiming some 1,000,000 members and patrons. Its stated goals are to "free all prisoners of conscience and ensure fair and prompt trials for political prisoners."

Following are summaries of the report's findings in Israel, Jordan, Egypt, Syria, and the Palestinian Authority-controlled areas.

## Israel

At least 1,600 Palestinians were arrested. (1,000 after suicide bombings). Six hundred more and five Jewish Israelis were made administrative detainees, of whom 250 remained by year's end.

Three conscientious objectors and 65 Lebanese were jailed or transferred from Lebanon. Trials of 1,000 Palestinians did not meet international standards. They were charged with membership in illegal organizations and stone-throwing, and were often convicted on the basis of confessions extracted by force.

Torture of Palestinians "continued to be systematic," sanctioned by secret guidelines permitting "moderate" physical and psychological pressure. "Increased physical pressure" was sanctioned after bombings.

At least 80 Palestinians died mostly in confrontation with the IDF, some "suggesting extrajudicial executions," notably master bomber Yihya Ayyash in January. The dead included 65 in the exchange of fire at checkpoints in September. Helicopter gunships sometimes reportedly shot at crowds. Seven houses were demolished as punishment. Palestinians killed 56 Israelis.

General Security Service violations went unpunished. A disciplinary court convicted the interrogator of one man, Abel Samad Harizat, who died from shaking, of "not carrying out his duty" and he returned to work.

Security forces "continued to enjoy virtual impunity for past human rights violations." In November, four agents were fined one agora each for "negligently causing the death" of a passenger in a car which stopped at a checkpoint.

Mordechai Vanunu, who sold nuclear secrets, remained in solitary confinement for a 10th year. Marcus Klingberg, a convicted Soviet spy, 78, was refused a sentence reduction despite health problems.

Israeli forces in Lebanon killed 102 civilians in a single incident in the UN compound at Kana. This was part of the 150 casualties in Operation Grapes of Wrath. AI published a separate earlier report earlier and considered that the compound "was deliberately

attacked."

AI called for the release or fair trial of administrative detainees and stressed that "sustained peace and security could only be built on the basis of respect for human rights."

## The Palestinian Authority

At least 1,200 people were arrested on security grounds, including 900 after suicide bombings. Most were released without charges within the year. At least 20 received "grossly" unfair trials in state security courts. Torture was widespread. Four died in jail and 10 were killed by PA security forces, sometimes suggesting extrajudicial executions. Eleven were sentenced to death but no judicial execution was carried out.

The new Legislative Council passed a first reading of a basic law declaring PA respect for UN human rights standards, but even when the PA High Court in Ramallah ordered the release of 10 Bir Zeit University students, the ruling was ignored and the court president was forced to retire.

Three human rights workers, Bassem Eid, Mohammed Dahman, and Iyyad Sarraj, were jailed for a day, two weeks and two weeks respectively. Sarraj ran an official PA-licensed human rights monitoring group. All were accused of spreading false information about PA abuses. Torture was widespread, including cigarette burnings, beatings, molten plastic, burning by electrical appliance, suspensions from the ceiling, and sleep deprivation. Three died from torture in jail. The subsequent trial of three of the alleged torturers was itself unfair.

Amnesty met with PA Chairman Yasser Arafat and talked about the impunity with which police abused human rights. Arafat said he was committed to ending torture.

## Syria

Scores of people were arrested on political grounds, adding to hundreds arrested from previous years. At least seven were hanged in a Damascus square in March. Many have disappeared. Thirteen Kurds were arrested in February 1996 for celebrating their New Year in Aleppo and were still in jail 10 months later. Some 160 people were in jail for supporting the Party for Communist Action. Another dozen were associated with the Communist Party political bureau.

Ten were sentenced to between five and 10 years for connection with the unauthorized Committees for the Defense of Democratic Freedoms and Human Rights in Syria. Some 23 suspected communists were released.

Islamic fundamentalists in jail number in the hundreds, many since the late 1970s, their whereabouts unknown. Dozens of doctors and engineers arrested after a one-day general strike in 1981 remain in jail. AI includes no

details of torture in Syrian jails.

## Lebanon

Scores arrested, several political prisoners sentenced. There was one apparent extrajudicial execution and 10 were sentenced to death. The fate of thousands of Palestinians, Lebanese, Syrians, and others abducted since 1975 remains unknown.

In September the Lebanese government issued a law regulating audio-visual media, limiting licenses to six TV and 12 radio stations.

Scores, mainly from Christian opposition groups, were arrested after a December attack on a Syrian minibus in which the driver was killed. Some alleged torture.

A Nasserite group, the Lebanese Popular Congress, saw 25 arrests. Members of the pro-Iraqi wing of the Baath Party were transferred to Syria. Christian militia leader Samir Geagea, was acquitted of bombing a church but sentenced to 10 years for maintaining an illegal militia. Others were sentenced to death in absentia.

## Jordan

Five prisoners of conscience remained in jail. Hundreds were arrested after anti-government bread riots in August, and some alleged torture. More than 100 political detainees were tried, some unfairly in state security courts. Jabal Dawleh died in custody after alleged torture or ill-treatment. There were nine executions from 21 sentenced to death.

Six Hamas supporters arrested in March-April alleged they were tortured. Medical certificates of four showed injuries consistent with the allegations. No action was taken by authorities against the torturers.

Ata Rushta, spokesperson of the Tahrir Party (radical Islamic) was sentenced to three years for a newspaper interview, though he did not advocate violence.

Five journalists were held for up to 10 days incommunicado, for lese-majeste, or inciting sectarian or ethnic disorder.

## Egypt

Seven prisoners of conscience were sentenced to three years imprisonment and 53 others, tried in 1995, sat in jail. Thousands of suspected supporters of banned Islamic groups were held without trial. Torture was systematic and no legal action has ever been taken against members of the State Security Intelligence, AI said.

There were 45 death sentences including 14 executions. Opposition groups committed grave violations of human rights including deliberate and arbitrary killing of at least 70 civilians.

A 1981 state of emergency remained in force. President Hosni Mubarak referred trials of Moslem Brother members to military courts. The prosecution failed to show evidence demonstrating any recognizable criminal offense, despite the charges of attempting to overthrow the regime.

Seven death penalties were imposed on civilians in military court.

# Invisible ink test disallowed in Azzam trial

CAIRO (AP) — The court trying Azzam Azzam, the Israeli citizen who is accused of spying for Israel, yesterday refused a request from Azzam's lawyer to test invisible ink that prosecutors say was used to write secret messages.

Farid al-Deeb demanded that a forensic laboratory examine the substance, which an indictment alleges was obtained from women's underwear which had been soaked in the ink by contacts in Israel. The reputed ink is the key evidence in the case against Azzam.

So far, the court has relied on the reports of intelligence officers. Yesterday it heard closed-door testimony from one of the officers, who said he had carried out tests



Azzam Azzam (AP) on the substance and verified that it is, in fact, invisible ink. Presiding judge Moharam

Darweesh told al-Deeb that the court was satisfied with the testimony and believed that Egypt's intelligence agency was qualified to perform the analysis.

Azzam and an Egyptian man, Emad Abdel-Hamid Ismail, went on trial last month on the charges of spying for Israel.

Prosecutors say two female Israeli agents recruited Azzam in Israel after sleeping with him. They say Azzam brought the women's underwear to Egypt and that Ismail was to use it to obtain the invisible ink and then write dispatches to his Israeli contacts.

The alleged recruiters are being tried in absentia. Azzam and Ismail have pleaded innocent to the spying charges.

Israel has demanded Azzam's release, saying he is innocent.

Al-Deeb and his fellow lawyers have been sharply criticized for agreeing to defend Azzam. In an incident on May 18, a lawyer hit al-Deeb in the face inside the courtroom, while others screamed insults at him. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Israeli diplomats present.

Yesterday's session, however, was orderly because the judge has ruled that anyone wishing to attend the hearing must obtain a special permit in advance.

Like in other sessions, Azzam's relatives and Israeli diplomats and officials attended the hearing, which was procedural. The trial resumes today.



Prof. David Ben-Ezra examines Andruha Hajianu, whose sight he restored in an operation on Monday, before she returned to her home in Cyprus yesterday. (Avi Hayon)

# Jerusalem doctor restores Cypriot woman's sight

By JUDY SIEGEL

A 53-year-old Cypriot woman who had been blind since the age of two and never seen her husband was given the gift of sight in one eye at Hadassah-University Hospital in Jerusalem's Ein Kerem.

On Monday, the woman, Andruha Hajianu, underwent a complicated three-hour operation by Prof. David Ben-Ezra of the ophthalmology department. The surgery included the use of ultrasound to make holes in her left eye and repair parts that had fused together — the result of a severe,

untreated infection that she contracted as a baby.

Her right eye, which is completely non-functional, had suffered a complete breakdown of the cornea. For years she had heard that Israeli ophthalmologists are excellent, and after pressing her government to help her, she was sent to Israel.

"The first thing she said when I took off the bandages was that I am very tall," said Ben-Ezra, who noted that the woman — who was accompanied here by someone from the School for the Blind in Cyprus — will now be able to get around and take care of her-

self. "But it won't be easy to learn to read and she has to learn to differentiate among colors, as her mind was not taught to see."

A telephone operator, Hajianu will now be able to work without feeling her way around. Hajianu returned yesterday to her country, eager to see her husband and her grandchild for the first time in her life.

"It was fortunate that doctors in Cyprus were afraid to treat her left eye, in which she was able to see only light, for fear that she would be completely in the dark," Ben-Ezra said. "As a result, we were able to restore her sight, however complex the surgery."

# Knesset panel tackles corruption cases

By LIAT COLLINS

With the Bar-On Affair barely over, yesterday's Knesset Interior Committee meeting on the investigation of public officials in fraud and corruption cases became highly charged.

Police Dep.-Cmdr. Yerahmiel Halperin, head of the national fraud squad, told the committee that in the past 18 months, the police had dealt with 53 complaints against senior local authority officials, although investigations were launched in only 12 cases. He said six local council

heads had been questioned. Halperin stressed that the police does not publicize cases it is investigating.

Emanuel Zissmann (Third Way) said he is certain many of the complaints are filed for political reasons. He advocated legislation to prevent leaks from investigations.

Beit She'an Mayor Shlomo Ben-Lulu, who was recently acquitted on corruption charges after a two-year investigation and trial, described his experiences. He said his deputy mayor had been arrested and held for 10 days on suspicion of stealing thousands of dollars, before the case was closed.

Committee chairman Salih Tarif (Labor) said police investigations are necessary even if ultimately no indictment results. He also warned against leaks, however, noting the large number of cases in which charges are not pressed. He called on the police to be more sensitive and on the State Attorney's Office to help speed up trials.

# Lieberman seeks to soothe Greens

By LIAT COLLINS

Avigdor Lieberman, director-general of the Prime Minister's Office, yesterday explained to members of the Knesset's green caucus the idea behind a planned national enterprises law. The proposal aims to cut the bureaucracy in major projects by avoiding the National Planning and Construction Law. Last month, reports of his plan raised an angry response from environmentalists and the directors-general of other ministries.

The meeting was the initiative of MK Avraham Herschson, who heads the green caucus.

Lieberman stressed that the idea is still in the formative stage and he had not yet decided whether to carry out the project by legislation or by other means.

"I am also concerned with environmental issues," he said.

Although the list of projects that would fall in the category of a national enterprise has yet to be completed, Lieberman gave some

examples. They included: constructing an underground rail system in the Tel Aviv area; closing the Hiryu landfill near Ben-Gurion Airport; moving Sde Dov Airport from Tel Aviv to an off-shore artificial island; moving the gas depot at Pi Giliot junction; and the Ben-Gurion 2000 plan.

"Some of these cannot wait any longer. There is also a safety factor involved," Lieberman said.

He noted the danger to flights from the birds swarming above the Hiryu dump and the risk from the gas depot close to a heavily populated area.

Lieberman said he intends to seek a way to get rid of "bureaucratic bottlenecks" and noted that some of these projects have been under discussion since the 1970s. An independent authority would be established to oversee the national enterprises, he said.

MKs Avraham Poraz (Shinui) and Eitan Cabel (Labor) both said the bottleneck is at the decision-making level.

# A VERY DIFFERENT TWO DAYS ON THE GOLAN

Widely recognized as perhaps Israel's most important security asset, the Golan is for the moment on the back burner. But it won't be there for long. So what better time than now to join Shorashim and The Jerusalem Post Travel Club for an in-depth, English-speaking two day tour of the area. We'll visit the settlements, examine the security issues and view the terrain, the animals, the water and the beauty.

We'll visit the museum at Kibbutz Tel Katsir, Mitzpe Nukeib, the Byzantine church of Kursi, Mount Bental, Kibbutz Afik, Emek Habacha. We'll pick blueberries to our heart's content, look at the reffooded Hula, view Nebi Yehoshua, Tel Kadesh, Ha'Eilat, the famous Bnot Ya'acov bridge, Khan Yarda, Kfar Hanassi and the wineries of Kibbutz Amiad. A truly magnificent tour. Overnight at Kibbutz Kfar Blum, with a lecture on the wolves of the Golan.

The date: Sunday-Monday, July 13-14.

The guide: Israel Shalem.

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### Terre Blanche jailed

Eugene Terre Blanche, leader of the neo-Nazi Afrikaner Resistance Movement, arrives at the courthouse in Potchefstroom, South Africa, yesterday. Terre Blanche was sentenced to six years in jail for attempting to murder a black man. (Reuters)

## EU reform stutters

### News agencies

AMSTERDAM - The European Union considered adopting a new treaty yesterday that would bar it from assuming a military role - in effect, recognizing the primacy of NATO in European security.

France and Germany have pushed for a new EU treaty to include responsibility for defense - a position strongly opposed by the United States, the largest power in the NATO military alliance.

But half a dozen others, led by Britain, opposed this, fearing it will only undermine NATO and spark an American disengagement from Europe.

British Prime Minister Tony Blair told his European partners not to get carried away with any desires to defend the continent together.

"Europe has not proved it can run a common foreign policy, let alone a common defense policy," British officials quoted him as saying at the summit.

Britain, Denmark and the bloc's neutrals - Sweden, Ireland, Finland and Austria - have resisted calls for integration of the

Western European Union (WEU) into the bloc, seen by the rest as a step towards true integration.

An aide to British Prime Minister Tony Blair said: "He is not going to allow anything to go through which he believes could be interpreted as undermining NATO."

The leaders struggled yesterday to make headway on finalizing the new treaty to modernize the 15-member bloc as it enters the next century and prepares to embrace new members from eastern Europe.

Flushed with heading off, for now, a potential crisis over monetary union, leaders at a two-day summit in the Dutch capital appeared bogged down over a number of key issues, such as raising the Union's profile on the global diplomatic stage and streamlining its joint decision-making processes.

Diplomats said one of the toughest fights would be over flexibility, where a number of countries want to retain a veto to prevent them from being left behind by eager integrationists.

Undeterred by, at best, a lukewarm response to a pledge to pay

more attention to jobs and growth in the run-up to monetary union, the summit battled to overcome pockets of national resistance to proposed changes to the way the Union works.

Officials said there was wide agreement on the direction a new treaty should take, but large differences among the 15 partners on sensitive issues such as defense and power-sharing.

"It's going very slowly," said Italian Foreign Minister Lamberto Dini.

Asked what were the chances of a deal on a new treaty yesterday, he replied: "A little better than 50:50 at the moment."

There's still a very long way to go. Under the latest draft treaty, drawn up by the Dutch EU presidency, EU countries would agree to cooperate more closely on asylum, immigration, visa policy and crime fighting, although Britain, Ireland and Denmark have been offered opt-outs.

The move to beef up cooperation on borders and immigration is part of the EU's plans to create an area of freedom, security and justice designed to appeal to a disenfranchised populace.

## Pol Pot mystery deepens

PHNOM PENH (AP) - Mystery deepened yesterday over the fate of notorious Khmer Rouge leader Pol Pot as rebel radio accused him of "betrayal" and one of Cambodia's co-premiers expressed doubts he would be found alive.

The radio broadcast claimed Khmer forces, reportedly split into pro- and anti-Pol Pot factions over the past week, had rallied behind Khieu Samphan, the group's figurehead president.

But First Premier Norodom Ranariddh told reporters that Khieu Samphan remained a hostage of Pol Pot, said to be surrounded in the northern jungles by 1,000 guerrillas who have turned against him.

It was unclear whether Pol Pot, 69, was dead or alive, in control or deposed. The mystery was emblematic of the way he ruled between 1975 and 1979, causing the deaths of some two million people in an attempt to turn Cambodia into a vast labor camp.

"I think we cannot say anything for sure, but I think the chances are very, very small of finding him alive," Ranariddh said.

The broadcast - which said "the betrayal of Pol Pot has ended" - appeared to signal at the least that his political sway, if not his life, was over.

"Political death is much more important than the physical one, but I think that Pol Pot even physically speaking is not well," the prince said. "His health, on the contrary, is very, very poor." The broadcast said the rebels under Khieu Samphan would throw their support behind Ranariddh's royalist party in elections next year.

The royalists have been competing with the formerly communist Cambodian People's Party for the guerrillas since mass Khmer Rouge defections began last August - two months after rumors circulated that Pol Pot had died. He has not been seen since by outsiders, but the rumors have never been confirmed.

## Tories fail again to elect new leader

LONDON - Britain's battered Conservatives failed to elect a leader for the second time yesterday, and will choose tomorrow between a seasoned moderate and a fast-rising star of the right.

Former Treasury chief Kenneth Clarke, 56, again led the poll with 64 votes, 19 short of the necessary majority of the 164 Conservative members of Parliament.

William Hague, 36, was two votes behind in the race to succeed former Prime Minister John Major.

John Redwood, 45, the former Welsh secretary, had 38 votes and was eliminated.

The battle to lead the defeated party plumbed new depths of acrimony yesterday as Clarke attacked his rival Hague as a divisive opportunist.

Britain's position on the single currency, which is supposed to be launched in 1999, dominated the campaign, just as it bedeviled

Major's defeated government.

Clarke accused Hague, the 36-year-old betting favorite, of shifting his position markedly during the campaign. Hague now says that if he became prime minister, he would not lead Britain into a single currency. "William has few known views on any other subject," Clarke said in a BBC radio interview yesterday. Hague's insistence that any Conservatives who wanted to serve under his leadership must declare their opposition to a single European currency was a recipe for more division, said Clarke, the party's most prominent pro-European.

"That is not the campaign of a unity candidate. That is the campaign of a candidate who's trying to settle an old issue," Clarke said shortly before the party's 164 members of parliament voted for a leader to succeed John Major. (News agencies)

## US: Iran expanding missile threat

ABU DHABI (AP) - Iran has started test-firing a new cruise missile designed to strike ships, Defense Secretary William Cohen said yesterday. He cited this as evidence of a sinister intent in Iran's military buildup.

At a news conference in Bahrain before flying here, Cohen said Iran is testing a Chinese-made anti-ship missile that can be launched from aircraft. That is in addition to cruise missiles Iran already has based on shore and aboard ships.

Cohen's disclosure fit neatly with the message he has delivered on each stop of his five-nation Persian Gulf tour: Iran poses a danger to its militarily weaker neighbors and does not deserve to be invited as a full member of the world community.

"Iraq and Iran violate international norms of good behavior," Cohen said. "Iran continues to be a sponsor of terrorism. In addition, it is developing weapons of mass destruction, improving missiles

that can strike neighboring nations, and boasting of its ability to close the Straits of Hormuz," he added.

The disclosure that the Chinese have supplied Iran with a new cruise missile coincides with the Clinton administration's push for extending normalized trade relations with Beijing.

Cohen did not address the China trade issue in his remarks, but focused instead on Iran's new missile capabilities.

In Abu Dhabi, whose rulers have a long-running dispute with Iran over control of Abu Musa island in the straits, Cohen found an agreeable audience.

In two hours of talks, UAE President Zayed bin Sultan agreed there should be no softening toward Iran, Cohen's spokesman Kenneth Bacon said. "He expressed discomfort and concern about the amount of money they (Iranians) are putting into their military," Bacon said. "They're very worried."

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EDITORIAL OFFICES AND ADMINISTRATION The Jerusalem Post Building, P.O. Box 81, Ramat Gan, Jerusalem 91000  
Telephone 02-531-5666, Fax 02-538-9527, CIRCULATION: 02-531-5610, Fax 02-538-9017, ADVERTISING: 02-531-5606,  
02-531-5637-40, Fax 02-538-9408, TEL. AVIV: 5 Rehov Hamasger, P.O.B. 28398 (61263) Telephone 02-6390333, Fax 6390277.  
HAIFA: 20 Nordau, Hadar Hacamel, Telephone 04-8623166, Published daily except Saturday, in Jerusalem, Israel by The Palestine  
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1974 TED LURIE, 1974-1975 LEA BEN-DOR, 1975-1989 ARI RATH and ERWIN FRENKEL, 1990-1992 N. DAVID GROSS,  
1992-1996 DAVID BAR-ILLAN  
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Subscriptions E-mail: subs@jpost.co.il

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## Crisis government

When the day rolls around for Israeli voters to decide whether to reelect Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, it is assumed they will base their decision on the great issues of the day: the peace process, the economy, and social relations. That may be the case; but they could well decide they are just tired of Netanyahu's style of governing — decision by crisis.

The decision announced Monday night at the Caesarea economic conference to lift most foreign currency restrictions over the next year was a welcome one, upon which all can agree. But then Netanyahu, Finance Minister Dan Meridor, and Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel sequestered themselves in an all-night, but futile effort to reach agreement on the "diagonal mechanism," the components of exchange rate reform, and budget policy.

The diagonal mechanism is the band within which the shekel is allowed to fluctuate against a basket of currencies. The shekel just broke through the lower border of the band, forcing the Bank of Israel to buy dollars yesterday, as it has intermittently over the past few months, to keep the shekel within the government-imposed limits. The current crisis arose when Frenkel proposed widening the band rather than maintaining the shekel within its current limits, a move which Meridor would reportedly resign over rather than accept.

The irony of the situation is that there rarely has been a threesome in charge of Israel's economic policy in closer agreement on basic policy direction as Netanyahu, Meridor, and Frenkel. It is considered natural that Frenkel and Meridor would battle over interest rates, as central bank chiefs and finance ministers do in the US and elsewhere. And as for premiers and their finance ministers, Yitzhak Rabin also had his own bitter fight with Avraham Shohat over the capital gains tax.

What is unnatural is for policies in areas of general agreement, such as currency liberalization, to become the subject of resignation rumors, all-night debating sessions, and political backbiting.

The standing media enthusiasm for a juicy coalition crisis is not sufficient to explain this phenomenon. The frenzied speculation over whether Meridor would resign or be fired was not built upon thin air, but most likely upon targeted leaks. The leaks, in turn, are built upon the sour relationship between Netanyahu and Meridor, and the fact that Netanyahu initially tried to shut Meridor out of his cabinet entirely.

It is one year after the messy business of Netanyahu's forming his cabinet, in which National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon and Meridor were initially left out in the cold. It might have been expected that, after this initial muscle-flexing, Netanyahu would realize he has in fact been elected prime minister, and it is time to worry about governing rather than set-

ting scores. What is bizarre is that the directly elected Netanyahu, already the most powerful prime minister in Israel's history on paper, cannot stop struggling for even more power.

At the time of this writing, Meridor and Netanyahu were moving toward a showdown in a snap, evening cabinet meeting, which itself was only called after the protests of many ministers against taking major economic decisions in the dead of night without their input. Netanyahu is reportedly pushing a proposal that is farther from what Meridor can accept, even though Frenkel and Meridor had already reached a possible compromise.

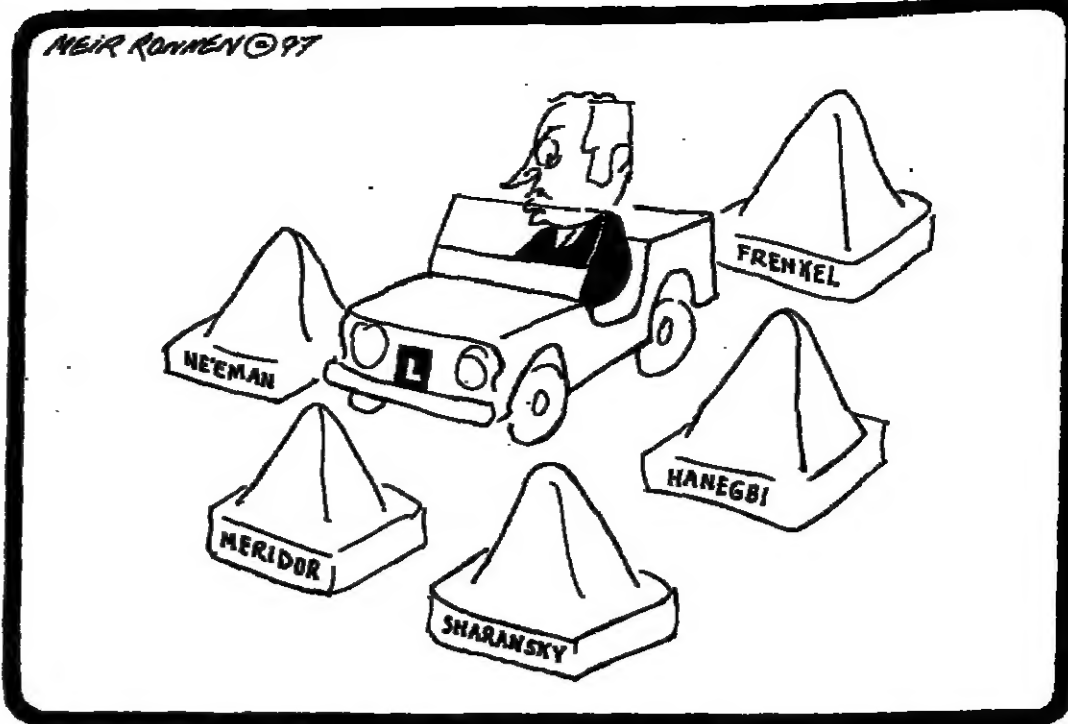
Whether Meridor is forced out of the government or a last-minute compromise is reached, it is evident that a legitimate policy debate, far from being defused by the prime minister, was actively transformed into a vehicle for a power struggle against one of his own ministers.

This is no way to run a railroad. Even more astonishing is that this whole scene is taking place under the shadow of a coalition crisis with Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky's party, Yisrael Ba'Aliya. Among Sharansky's demands is that the recommendations of the committee chaired by him and Meridor to develop lessons learned from the Bar-On Affair be implemented. So at the same time Netanyahu is resisting Sharansky's recommendations on common sense, good-government, and decision-making procedures, he is giving a vivid demonstration, once again, of how his own decision-making process is the very antithesis of Sharansky's vision.

There are two rays of hope in this mess. The first is that, in his speech to the Caesarea conference, Netanyahu finally unveiled an excellent proposal: the appointment of an independent commission to find ways to "make the central government smaller, faster, and more efficient" and to reduce the government's burden on the economy. The commission will be headed by a respected professional, Yoram Turbovich, and will include representatives from government, academia, and the private sector. It is a mystery why this proposal was not put forward on day one, rather than year two, of the government's tenure — but better late than never.

The second hope is that Sharansky and the rest of the ministers who are tired and embarrassed by the government's Keystone Cops-style of decision making will force Netanyahu to accept the procedural recommendations of the Sharansky-Meridor committee.

Though it was buried in the muck of his political mud-wrestling tactics, Netanyahu deserves credit for taking positions in the economy's long-term interest and not pandering to short-sighted industrialist griping. Now if only Netanyahu could learn, or be trained, to work with his own cabinet instead of against it, some of his better instincts might come to the fore.



## More rioting, less gain

Yasser Arafat is an Israeli agent, an angry Palestinian recently e-mailed me. "He and his Palestinian Authority are a sham." I don't think Arafat works for the Mossad. But it is undoubtedly true that Arafat and the PA are doing more these days to undermine the plans of the so-called peace camp than all the members of the nationalist camp combined.

The Palestinians appear to have seriously misunderstood the ramifications of Netanyahu's Allon-Plus plan. They see it as a maximalist Israeli proposal which can be whittled down through a combination of violence and international pressure.

Actually, the opposite is the case. Palestinian violence may force the map drawers to block out even more territory as vital to Israel's security needs.

The plan is far from maximalist. For the most part, it reflects the minimum with which the defense authorities believe Israel can live.

And except for the secular messianic Left, which believes in the supernatural ability of the IDF to prevail under any circumstances, the Israeli public stands four square behind insisting on defensible lines.

THE Tami Steinmetz Center for Peace Studies at Tel Aviv University polled Jewish Israelis a few days after Ha'aretz broke the Allon-Plus story, and found only 19 percent said Allon-Plus wasn't generous enough. Almost 31 percent felt the plan offered the Palestinians too much, while over 38 percent felt it was just right.

Even among those who voted for Shimon Peres, only a third wanted to put more on the table than Netanyahu does.

Allon-Plus is, after all, not just a Netanyahu plan. Labor's Ehud Barak has been careful to avoid

### AARON LERNER

taking a stand on the specifics, and for good reason.

His own Labor Party's recently held Sixth Convention called for the Jordan Valley and the northern Dead Sea to "remain the eastern security border of Israel, under Israeli sovereignty and military control," and for Israel to establish "sovereignty over territories in which principal settlement

### Palestinian violence is achieving the opposite of what the Palestinians really want

blocs are located."

Is Barak simply posturing to get nationalist camp votes? Labor MK Nawaf Massalha, deputy chairman of the committee which drafted Labor's policy statement, recently confirmed to me that Barak's position is just "for public consumption."

But the fact remains that Massalha and the other Labor doves recognize that the only way for Barak to win is by convincing the public that he also supports some form of Allon-Plus.

How do Palestinian violations affect the map? Netanyahu says Allon-Plus is a concept yet to be translated to a final map. It is, however, an outgrowth of the IDF security interest map that the PM brought to the White House. Hebrew University water expert Professor Haim Gvirtzman, got the security interest map from army sources and added the Yarkon-Taninim Aquifer to it.

When the map, with Gvirtzman's addition, appeared in

last Friday's *Yediot Aharonot*, I was struck by some isolated purple dots located in the areas deemed to be "of no strategic significance" by the IDF.

Gvirtzman told me that the IDF had identified some strategic points within the strategically insignificant areas. He explained that the IDF's working assumption has been that it can hold these isolated strategic points without controlling the access to them.

That's right. The strategic map assumes that secure IDF access isn't needed to some strategic points. But the PA's continuing security violations and violent declarations raise serious doubts about the validity of this assumption.

The IDF assumes the need for a 4 km-wide swath in order to secure strategic passages from the Green Line into the Jordan Valley. Run similar security passages to those isolated strategic points on the map, and the Palestinians are left with considerably less territory under their control.

And that's just the start. Increasing Palestinian violations are bound to convince all but the terminally optimistic that even tighter security arrangements are necessary.

So while Arafat sends his men to push the lines back, his actions may be fast persuading Israel that the state's security requires even more space.

The biggest mistake the so-called peace camp can make today is to claim that Netanyahu's Allon-Plus will kill the peace process. Security may not be a sufficient condition for a deal, but it is a necessary one.

And if Israel can't have security and peace, this isn't really a peace process at all.

The writer directs IMRA (Independent Media Review & Analysis).

## Wall of us all

JUDY LABENSOHN

While walking in my Jerusalem neighborhood this week, I've run into some of the women who participated in the egalitarian *minyan* at the Western Wall on Shavuot morning.

They are still shaken up by the violent expression of baseless hatred by Jews for fellow Jews, the kind of hatred that caused the Second Temple to be destroyed.

Listening to their experience reminded me of my own several years back, when for a few consecutive months I joined the Women of the Wall on Rosh Hodesh.

That was my first encounter with tear gas and flying chairs aimed my way. I was petrified by the hatred *haredi* men and women showed us.

After the tear gas, I decided I didn't need the Kotel in my life anymore. After all, what was it? Just another wall, a collection of 2,000-year-old stones.

When I really wanted to pray I would go to my local Reform synagogue, a place open to all kinds of people, including the mentally infirm from the Akim neighborhood shelter.

When I pray in my synagogue, I know God is listening, even smiling. At the Wall, He obviously sleeps.

So I was caught unaware by my feelings of outrage at this latest outburst of religious violence. I forgot how I had abandoned the Wall to the *haredim* years ago.

How do they get away with this hooliganism? I asked myself. Doesn't the Wall belong to all the Jewish people? Don't we all have the right to pray there — if not next to the Herodian stones because of the "custom of the place," then at least at the back of the plaza, where the egalitarian *minyan* congregated last week?

### First you cede the Kotel, then Jerusalem. Or you stand up and say no

Then it came back to me that, by dropping out of the Women of the Wall, I had actually handed over the Wall to Jews who can tolerate neither a women-only *minyan*, nor an egalitarian one.

By my apathy, by not being there to help claim the Wall for those Jews who define themselves as neither religious nor secular, who straddle a life style somewhere in between, I had made myself an accomplice to the Shavuot outrage.

THE *haredim* are staking out a place that belongs to all the Jewish people; by absencing ourselves out of fear of violence, people like me are allowing them to do so.

The Wall was liberated for the entire Jewish people, and the entire Jewish people must fight to make sure it remains available for our use.

Jews who subscribe to pluralism, who acknowledge the many voices and faces of contemporary Judaism, thus have two options: We can either treat the Wall as a bastion of *haredi* Judaism, as a monument to *haredi* intransigence, or we can say: We won't stand for this.

The first option entails a personal sacrifice of whole chapters of our religious history, it entails our forfeiting the possibility of finding meaning at the site of our historic spiritual center.

And if I am ready to forfeit the Kotel, it is but a short mental leap to saying, "Let them have Jerusalem as well."

Am I willing to abandon the city to *haredi* hooligans? No.

So if I and others like me feel unreservedly that the Kotel belongs to all the Jewish people, it means that the Reform and Conservative movements here and abroad, and civil rights and women's groups in Israel must rally to a clarion call for thousands of Jews to gather at the Wall on Tisha B'Av for an egalitarian reading of Lamentations.

We must call for the police to protect Jews of all streams, to arrest any who shove, spit or throw things, rather than merely removing the victims of the violence.

If they do not, no enlightened person will want to live in Jerusalem. It will become a city with a past, but no future.

If the Jewish world and the Israeli establishment do not stand up to hooliganism, the words of Lamentations might become painfully prophetic for those Jews in search of a middle path: "How doth the city sit solitary that was full of people... all her beauty is departed."

The author is a Jerusalem-based writer.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### TIME TO PROTEST

Sir, — I am a proud Jew; proud of the diversity of my people, my culture and my religion. I consider all Jews my brothers and sisters. I don't first ask how observant they are. But today, we are all under attack. There are *haredi* Israeli and American Jews amongst us who have decided that Reform and Conservative Judaism are separate religions. They are building new walls to separate the observant Jews from those of us who are not "Jewish enough."

Reform, Reconstructionist and Conservative Judaism have proud histories. However, as the mainstream of the Diaspora, they have stepped aside and allowed the Orthodox minority to grab the reins of Judaism and direct its future. It is time to wake up and say enough. In my eyes, the magnificence of Judaism is reflected in its diversity. In recorded history, we are a unique people. Never before have so few accomplished so much.

I am looking to my Federation presidents, my rabbis and other community leaders to stand up and help me voice my anger. I want my community leaders to organize a Mission to Israel to speak face to face with the prime minister and then to protest en masse outside the Knesset. When the conversion bill comes up for debate, they should move inside to protest louder and louder.

HARRIETT BERKELHAMMER  
Aventura, Florida.

### ELDER STATESMAN

Sir, — I admire the magnificent career of Shimon Peres and his dedication to the Israeli people. He deserves the position of elder statesman of the Labor Party and can be a moral force and voice for the entire nation. To qualify, he need do only one thing — let go.

IRA DIRECTOR

Gezer.

### MISSIONARY ACTIVITY BILL

Sir, — I was quite surprised to read in Hillel Kuttler's May 28 article ("US Christians protest Knesset bill limiting missionary activity") the erroneous statement that "The campaign began when Galtronics of Athens, Georgia... wrote to Georgia senators," thus accusing Galtronics of being responsible for instigating a campaign by American Christian fundamentalists to protest the proposed bill sponsored by Nissim Zivili and Moshe Gafni. The campaign has arisen from alarmed Israeli citizens who are certain that the bill will do incalculable social and political damage to Israel's reputation as a modern pluralistic democracy.

I am an Israeli who worked at Galtronics in Tiberias for two years, and my husband has been working there for well over a decade. I must say that while some employees of Galtronics consider the bill to be a shocking violation of basic human rights, it is absolutely false that the protest campaign was begun by Galtronics. It is obvious that reporters are making Galtronics a lightning rod of their accusations simply because it is known to be a company owned by evangelical Christians.

ROBERTA KELLUM

Poriya.

### PREPOSTEROUS IDEA

Sir, — Who was cruel, indecent and illogical enough to propose ousting the victims of terror from inclusion in the official Remembrance Day for our fallen soldiers?

I am grateful to Esther Wachsmann whose article of May 26, "Who make up 'Israel's fallen'?" drew my attention to this preposterous idea of stigmatizing the victims of terror. It must not be allowed to happen.

ROSE SCHAFFER

Haifa.

### NEVEH ALIZA

Sir, — I refer to Margot Dudkevitch's article of May 30, "Boom or bust? Construction in the territories." I have been living in Neveh Aliza (a neighborhood in the Givat Shimon section of Karmei Shomron) since July 1985 (almost 12 years), so it can hardly be called a new neighborhood.

LEAH KOCHANOWITZ  
Karmei Shomron.

### COMMENDABLE WORK

Sir, — In recent weeks, the focus of publicity has been on the Swiss-Nazi gold affair and the efforts of the World Jewish Congress and others to resolve the shocking scandal. However, there is another significant area which I believe should receive equal attention.

I would like to commend the work of the World Jewish Restitution Organization for pursuing the claims for Jewish communal and private property confiscated by the Germans and later taken over by many of the current East and Central European governments.

WJRO Vice-Chairman Naftali Lavie should be congratulated for his determination and persistence in getting these Jewish assets returned to their rightful owners.

Lithuania, Latvia, the Czech Republic, Belarus, Moldova and especially Poland have ignored or stalled on these claims for the past 50 years. Currently, many of them are seeking membership in NATO and the EU. Such membership should be conditioned on their fulfilling their humanitarian obligations as civilized nations.

CHAIM TEPPER

Jerusalem (Far Rockaway, N.Y.).

## Physiotherapy for Labor

Much has been written and said about the Labor leadership primary. The focus, naturally, was on the candidates themselves — their personalities, habits and campaigns. The election process itself, as a political, democratic process, received scant attention.

The leadership contest was US-style, although Labor's strict limitations prevented an all-out street campaign. (The party's constitution allows no billboards, radio or TV commercials.)

The six-month process highlighted four attractive potential leaders, each symbolizing something of the national ethos that Labor carries as a movement — security, *aliya*, higher education, the peace process. The fact that all four candidates stood out from the Labor rank-and-file may be credited to the process itself.

The introduction of the primaries system (this writer, together with MKs Efraim Sneh and Ori Orr, was privileged to be one of its initiators in early 1989) was a revolution in local politics. It went hand-in-hand with the trend internationally of decentralizing major parties and placing more rights and responsibilities on the members themselves.

Knesset legislation and internal party rules notwithstanding, the system is still flawed. But Labor, unlike the Likud, has tried to tackle the flaws by introducing strict scrutiny and limitations on major expenditures such as advertising.

Decentralizing the parties may entail risks in a divided society such as ours. But the decentralization and weakening of our two major parties has come about mostly as a result of the direct election law and the amendments to the party financing laws.

The leadership primary also showed up the advantages of the process for the big parties.

First, it showed the beauty of involving the members en masse in electing their candidate for national leader. Secondly, it gave newcomers a fair chance of climbing to the top without depending

### YITZHAK HERZOG

on Tammany-Hall-like figures.

The main original objective of the process was in fact curtailing the power of party bosses (most of them then Histadrut apparatchiks). We wanted to take the smoke out of Labor's famous "smoke-filled rooms," where the decisions used to be made. The leadership primary enabled Labor to change the guard in style.

### The leadership primary was a complete workout, pumping blood throughout the party's system

The embodiment of this was MK Shlomo Ben-Ami, who, with a very short campaign and hardly any funds, did outstandingly, receiving almost 15 percent of the vote. It couldn't have happened in the pre-primaries era.

As a great believer in the collective logic of the 180,000 party members, I feel they took their decision seriously, and had a fair chance of analyzing the candidates well without the need of "brokers."

The fact that Ben-Ami's campaign was so successful despite its financial limitations was primarily because of the great public interest in the process. This, of course, led to great media attention, which all the candidates tried to exploit. This in turn influenced the members themselves, activating many of them.

ONE THING analysts like to stress is how both Benjamin Netanyahu and Ehud Barak used the primaries system to take over their respective parties from the outside.

It is true that both men based their campaigns on personal popularity, and on their chances of win-

ning the direct election for premier. But that similarity aside, the comparison is somewhat superficial.

Netanyahu took over a party whose organs were constitutionally nonfunctioning, and reconstructed them. Barak, after being elected to the Knesset and serving as a member of the cabinet, assumed his new position in an organization whose legal bodies are very organized, and which has a very well-established constitution. Its convention, moreover, has just determined on a detailed party platform.

Concerning the good primaries can do for Labor, the process may be viewed as a kind of "physiotherapy," working on the party from top to bottom, pumping blood throughout its system. The leadership primary roused the party members, raised their heads, and created a more vibrant body.

Barak is thus taking over an organization of 180,000 members, all still overwhelmed by the recent process, all ready and eager to go to work. What he needs to do is meet their eagerness with swift action that will lead to a recovery of the party structure and a unifying of the camp behind him.

The first 100 days of Barak's term as party chairman will be crucial in exploiting the energy the leadership primary has created. It will be Barak's first test.

The writer, an attorney, is a member of the Labor Party's leadership bureau and one of the initiators of the primaries election process in Israel.

### POSTSCRIPT

IN A COUNTRY wild about beauty contests, the newest tide at stake in the Philippines is "Miss Rat."

In this case, it's all talent and not looks — the title will go to the woman who kills the largest number of rodents, which have been ravaging farms in much of the nation.

Ironically, this is the Year of the Rat in the Oriental zodiac.



## GRAPEVINE

## You've come a long way, Buby!

By GREER FAY CASHMAN

WHEN nonagenarian Shirley Kottin attended the bar-mitzva festivities of her great-grandson Gadi Saper, it never occurred to her that there might be another cause for celebration. But her large family had done its homework and discovered that according to the Hebrew calendar, her birthday fell on the same date as Gadi's. Her granddaughter, Gadi's mother Rina Saper, ordered a surprise birthday cake inscribed "Happy Birthday Buby," but the cake decorator, presumably thinking a mistake had been made by the person who took the order, substituted "Baby" for "Buby."

of Tel Aviv's Promto restaurant, serves Italian food so authentic that it is the first Israeli establishment to be recognized as "The Best Italian Restaurant Outside Italy." The coveted title was awarded to Adar at a ceremony at the Presidential Palace in Rome.

FORMER General Security Service chief and current Colcom president Ya'acov Perry keeps adding strings to his bow, and has now accepted the chairmanship of the Board of Governors of the Rubin Academy of Music and Dance in Jerusalem. A talented musician in his own right, Perry's personal forte is the trumpet.

LABOR MK and former prime



Heading home: Martin and Jill Indyk

(Koko)

THE American Independence Day reception to be hosted by US Ambassador Martin Indyk and his wife Jill will to a large extent be a farewell affair, as the Indyks will soon be returning to the US. To accommodate Sabbath observers, the event has been brought forward a day to July 3; and out of consideration for all the guests, the venue has been changed from the ambassador's palatial residence to the Wingate Institute. Due to extensive roadwork in Herzliya Pituah, most of the diplomats living there have had to either hold their parties in other locations or inconvenience their guests. The Indyks didn't wait over a thousand people to trudge through the rubble.



Pulling strings: Peres borrows Ziskind's violin

(Shlomo Wolfovitz)

LAWYER Dan Sheinman who has defended such public figures as Yehudit Aharoni publisher Nomi Mozes, former Haifa mayor Aryeh Gurel and former justice minister Ya'acov Ne'eman, took a back seat to his wife, artist Daniella Sheinman, when she opened an exhibition of her paintings *Venus rose from the sea* at the National Maritime Museum in Haifa. As it happens, Mozes and Gurel were present along with current Haifa Mayor Amram Mitzna, but Ne'eman gave the Saturday night opening a miss because Shabbat is out too late. Also present were architect Nira Reichman, husband-and-wife legal team Pinchas and Tzipi Rubin, Beth Hatefutsoth curator Margalit Bergstein and businessman, art collector and occasional broadcaster Binyamin Gibli.

THE gamblers knew in advance that the house was going to win but that didn't stop them from buying chips for the Monte Carlo-style casino that was part of the annual fund-raising effort for the Beit Issy Shapiro Therapeutic Center for Developmentally Delayed Children. The gala event at the Holiday Inn Herzliya included a concert recital by popular violinist Mirel Reznik. Among those attending were Ra'anana Mayor Zev Bielski and his wife Keren, philanthropist Yuli Ofer and his wife Ruti, US Ambassador Martin Indyk and his wife Jill, British Ambassador David Manning and his wife Catherine, South African Ambassador Frank Land and his wife Maatchien, and Dutch Ambassador Christian Kroner and his wife Harriet.

IT'S not often that gastronomic history is made in Israel, particularly in the realm of non-Israeli cuisine. But Rafi Adar, proprietor

minister Shimon Peres apparently has a yen for music too. At an end-of-season concert at the Iona Fehrer Music Center in Holon, he borrowed the violin of virtuoso Pinchas Zukerman, who comes home each year to give master classes at IFMC. Whether Peres would be a better musician than a politician is a well-kept secret, but either way, he and Zukerman had a lot of fun clowning for the cameras.

NEWLY elected Labor Party chairman Ehud Barak, who is a fine pianist, might have had more MKs present if he was giving a concert than going through the motions of changing the guard at a Labor Party Central Committee meeting at Beit Berl. Only 10

By BRAD BONHALL

Tammie and Tapatha Rodgers sometimes have the same dream. They're college classmates, roommates. They share nearly everything; Tapatha says they even take turns being dominant.

They're identical twins, each with 100 percent of the other's genes.

"We're as close as two people can get," says Tapatha, 21, of Fullerton, California.

The psychology of the Rodgerses and thousands of other twins is the life's work and fascination of Nancy L. Segal, a well-known twin expert who teaches at California State University, Fullerton.

Public interest in twins has never been higher, says Segal, 46. In the last year, she has been swamped with requests for speeches, magazine articles, TV documentary

consulting work, expert-witness appearances and research.

The recent brouhaha over cloning only added to her scientific celebrity.

Interest in twins is such that Segal, a behavioral geneticist and professor of developmental psychology, has been asked to write a book.

*Friendship: Extraordinary: Twins and What They Tell Us About Human Development and Personality* is scheduled to be published next year by Dutton Press.

In the five-year history of Segal's Twins Study Center, more than 100 pairs of twins have participated in research, ranging from olfactory perception to bereavement.

Segal's overriding goal: to help solve the nature-versus-nurture riddle—that is, to determine which of our behaviors is influenced by our genes and which by our home environment.

Twins are the ideal subjects, "a natural living laboratory," Segal says. By studying them, Segal sees potential solutions to behavioral questions that can't otherwise be answered, even by human clones.

PARENTING

## The world of parenting according to Adler

By RUTH MASON

Several years ago, my family and I spent the intermediate days of Pessah on an organized vacation at a Society for the Preservation of Nature field school. During meals in the dining room, I would see a family of eight eating at a corner table. The children were quiet and well-behaved and the mother looked young, slim, beautiful and calm.

"What's your secret?" I asked her. "I actually do have one," she said. "I've been taking Adler parenting courses for eight years. Without them, I wouldn't survive."

According to the Adler Institute in Tel Aviv, there are approximately 600 trained Adlerian group leaders around the country. This past fall, my husband and I decided to take such a 24-week course. The highlights of it will be summarized in this and the next two columns.

When our course ended, one mother, who had been unable to wean her one-year-old or send him to day care, managed to do both. The two- and four-year-olds of one mother who wouldn't clean their room or dress themselves when the course began, now do both.

One divorced, anxious mother, whose seven-year-old always whined and complained when she returned home from visiting her father, managed to distance herself from what went on when her daughter was with her ex-husband. The mother's well-being and the child's behavior improved dramatically.

The parenting courses are based on the work of the psychologist Alfred Adler, a physician who was a student of Freud's and later broke off from him to found his own school of psychology. The central ideas underlying the approach are that every child wants to belong to his family. In order to feel good, a child must feel that he has a place in his family. The Adlerians believe that when a child is not sure of his place—and this can be a com-

as clones would not have shared the womb and early upbringing.

Twins separated at birth can show eerily similar behavior. Segal participated in a follow-up study of one such identical pair—Jim Lewis and Jim Springer.

The Jim twins, adopted by separate Ohio families a few weeks

between identical twins and has found the level of grief a twin experiences when the other twin dies is greater than that experienced after the death of a mother, father or other sibling and equals the bereavement felt when a spouse dies.

Such data have proved attractive to lawyers trying to maximize damage awards in wrongful death cases, and Segal has appeared as an expert witness in such trials about a dozen times.

Central to Segal's research is documenting how twins interact with each other. Growing up in New York, Segal says, she was interested in why she and her fraternal twin, Anne, weren't very much alike. "Then when I got to college and became interested in psychology, this whole area was fascinating to me because it provided answers to questions I'd had growing up. Why is it that two related people can be so different?"

She began finding answers at the University of Minnesota, where she was assistant director of the Minnesota Center for Twin and Adoption Research.

Twin research is not without its critics. The critics say it's hard to pinpoint how much of twins' behavior is due to genes and how much is a result of their having had common treatment.

As a partial response, Segal is completing research she says is "precisely the reverse" of studying identical twins who were raised apart, such as the Jim twins.

Her study, to be published in June in the *Journal of Educational Psychology*, looks at unrelated siblings of the same age who are reared together.

"My argument is, let's look at kids who are reared together but who have no genes in common, such as a boy and his adopted brother of the same age. So far, the data suggests they're not very much alike at all."

(Los Angeles Times)



Studies show that twins separated at birth have eerily similar behavior.

(Sivan Farag)

## Not Page One

## Sez You! Nuggets of kiddy wisdom

By Sam Orbaum



THE "Sez You!" search for kidwit produced results that prove once and for all that our young 'uns are geniuses. Response was strong, though 97% of respondents didn't want to be bothered with writing their gems down, preferring to stop me in the street or call me at home to tell me about their brilliant children.

In the interest of scientific exactitude, I rebuffed the urge to include anything from my own kids. (I'm saving that for a book.) Right then, enough of that. Ladies and gentlemen, the children speak:

Sivan, almost six, was walking with her grandmother, and feeling thirsty asked for a "choco."

"But you just had one! What is this craving you have for chocolate?" grandma asked.

Sivan shot back a response that was right on the money: "Well, Bubby, it's all that advertising."

— Edythe F. Rehovot (Hasn't Sivan seen all those ads for carrots and spinach?)

A senior citizen was visiting a friend, whose little girl asked the old woman her age; she was told it's impolite to ask that of a lady.

The little girl looked at the visitor again. "Is it OK to ask if those are her real teeth?"

— Kathy Salmanson (She should have asked the woman how old her teeth are.)

When the dog died, I wailed in grief for a while, but stopped abruptly when my granddaughter put it in perspective. "I don't know

**Dror used to suck his thumb and at the same time twist the hair on his head. When he was three, he explained why: 'This is the key to my thoughts.'**

why you're making such a fuss, zayde—I think it was much sadder when your mother died." CBK, Kibbutz Lavi (Good point: did Oedipus love his dog?)

When my daughter Clelia was two and half, she was taken to visit an aunt, who owned a pike. My daughter had never before seen a dog up close before.

After looking at the creature for quite a long time, she finally asked: "Can the dog talk?" On being told no, she then asked: "Can the dog think?" (Clelia now has seven grandchildren of her own.)

— Marcella Segre, Jerusalem (Puppies have been known to wonder if children can bark.)

Daniel, three years old with four siblings, was told by his kindergarten teacher to draw a picture of his family, including a pet. His work of art consisted of three figures and an animal—even though we don't have a pet.

I thought he might have been expressing a desire for a dog or cat, but no; his explanation: "That's Mommy, that's Daddy, that's Daniel, that's a jak [cockroach]."

— Vicky Rachmani, Petah Tikva (Now it's public knowledge: the Rachmanis have a roach.)

One day, when my granddaughter Adriani was three, her mother and I were talking endlessly. Adriani became jealous and shouted: "Stop it! What's all this speak-ness about?"

— Leonia Singer, Jerusalem = (Do the men of the family ever get a word in?)

My five-year-old grandson was informed by his modern, enlightened parents that they'd be expecting a third baby.

Knowing all about how babies are made (or almost all), he stated: "So you did it three times—once

for me, once for my sister, and again for our new baby." He then added: "Why didn't I get to see how it was done?" Told that "it" was done while he was asleep, he asked: "Then why didn't you wake me up?" — Veda Kahn, Kiryat Bialik (And you thought exposure to advertising was a problem.)

It was the day of my daughter's fourth birthday and I came out of hospital with her new baby brother. She asked how he was put in my stomach and I decided to tell her the truth, very tactfully. She contemplated that for a few minutes and then said, "It's a good job daddy did this with you, otherwise we would not have been here."

— Ena Dorsman, Kibbutz Ayelet Hashahar (Mrs. Dorsman could have asked Mrs. Kahn's grandson to explain it all.)

When Dana was three, her kindergarten teacher saw her sitting on the steps of the school. "What are you doing here alone, Dana?" the teacher asked. Came the reply: "Ma ptiom? I'm not alone, I'm with me." — Leonia Singer, Jerusalem (Dana could grow up to be Shimon Peres.)

My grandson Dror used to suck his thumb and at the same time twist the hair on his head. When he was three, he explained why: "This is the key to my thoughts." — Leonia Singer, Jerusalem (The Singer Family motto: I think, therefore I am alone.)

When Oriel was two years old, she still hadn't figured out the difference between "my," "his," "its," etc. She was looking at a picture of a monkey and its baby, and described the scene thus: "That's the baby, and that's my Mommy."

— Vicky Rachmani, Petah Tikva (Or maybe she got it right, and Mrs. Rachmani needs electrolysis.)

When Yoel was 4 1/2, he wanted to know what happens to your body when you die.

His grandfather explained that your soul goes up to heaven to be with God.

A few months later, Yoel overheard me telling someone that my grandfather, many years ago, had a heart attack in the car and died.

"His head must have gotten a big booboo going to heaven," Yoel said. Why? "It had to first go through the roof of the car."

— Ellen Cohen, Jerusalem (There oughta be a law: people about to go to Heaven should only drive in convertibles.)

I was escorting my six-year-old granddaughter Yael back home from school. She complained that she was tired, and I pointed out that it's really not such a long walk.

"True," she replied. "But relatively it is quite long."

— Menachem Bloch (When the Talmud is next updated, Yael should be in it.)

When the Ethiopians immigrated, Ya'acov, 4, was told by his father that a lot of people are coming to live in Israel and they're very nice and they're Jewish just like we are, and their skin is black.

A couple of weeks later while out taking a stroll, they spotted a group of Ethiopians. Said Ya'acov: "Look, Daddy—Jews!" — JM, Jerusalem (There is hope.)

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Next week: Parental authority, trust, encouragement, responsibility.



## BUSINESS

in brief

### Kibbutz exports up 5%

Exports from kibbutz factories rose five percent in the first four months this year to \$367 million from \$349m. in the same period last year, an Association of Kibbutz Industries spokesman said yesterday. Twenty-one kibbutz-based companies stopped exporting during the same period, bringing the total number of kibbutz factories that export down to 286. Local sales by kibbutz factories dropped 5% from the same period last year.

Jennifer Friedlin

### Israel to sign trade agreement with Moldavia

Israel and Moldavia expect to sign a trade agreement in anticipation of the president of Moldavia's visit scheduled for the end of the month. According to the Industry and Trade Ministry, the two sides have ironed out most of the terms of the agreement. The Israeli side is currently checking to make sure the favorable trade terms Moldavia offers to European nations will also be offered to Israeli exporters.

Once signed, the agreement will allow Moldavia to export goods to Israel without a special license, despite the fact that Moldavia is not a member of the World Trade Organization. A spokesman for the ministry said the agreement is designed to increase bilateral trade, which currently stands at \$16m. a year.

Jennifer Friedlin

### Philips, Lucent in joint deal

Philips Electronics NV and Lucent Technologies Inc. said yesterday they planned to create a joint venture consumer communications company with annual turnover of more than \$2.5 billion. The new firm, to be called Philips Consumer Communications, would be the world leader in corded and cordless phones and answering machines, they said in a joint statement.

Based in New Jersey, it will have 12,400 employees and also manufacture and sell digital and analog cellular phones, pagers and other mobile electronic devices. Philips will hold 60 percent of the joint venture and Lucent 40%.

Reuters

### US factories busiest in 1-1/2 years in May

A rebound in auto manufacturing helped push US industrial output up in May as the nation's mines, factories and utilities ran at their fastest clip in more than 1-1/2 years, the Federal Reserve said yesterday.

Industrial production climbed 0.4% last month after a revised 0.3% gain in April, boosting capacity use last month to 83.7% from 83.6% in April - the highest use rate since 83.9% in September 1995.

Reuters

### Royal Caribbean to buy Celebrity Cruises

Royal Caribbean International has agreed to acquire Celebrity Cruise Lines Inc. in a \$1.3 billion deal that will challenge Carnival Cruise Lines for leadership of the vacation cruise business.

The pact, announced yesterday by Miami-based Royal Caribbean, would give the combined companies a fleet of 20 ships totaling more than 38,000 berths by the year 2000.

Reuters

# Generali offers \$12m. indemnity fund for Holocaust victims

By DAVID HARRIS

In a gesture to the Jewish people, Italian-based insurance giant Assicurazioni Generali has offered to establish a \$12 million fund to compensate the families of Holocaust victims that held policies with the company during World War II.

MKS Avraham Ravitz (United Torah Judaism), Michael Kleiner (Likud-Gesher), and Avraham Herschson (Likud), together with the company's legal representative in Israel, Amihud Ben-Porat, are still working on formulating the

final details of the agreement last night.

The \$12m. fund is \$2m. higher than the amount originally sought by Ravitz, who chairs the Knesset Finance Committee.

Generali's offer consists of the following:

- The establishment of a 12-year, \$12m. fund to be managed from Israel. The fund will release \$2m. for the first few years and then decrease the amount in the remaining years. MKs will determine who will oversee the fund, but must appoint one Generali representative. The fund committee

will decide exactly how the money will be allocated.

- The creation of a hotline for those who want to make claims. The "communications center," as one source called it, will be managed from Generali's headquarters in Trieste. The source said he hopes the line will be operational within a month.

- A formal agreement of principles between the MKs and Generali.

Generali made the proposal late Monday night and sources said the terms are largely non-negotiable. The number of claims against

Generali total 70, according to lawyer Elisheva Ansbacher, who is representing the families here.

Documentation exists in some 20% of these instances. The total payable on these policies amounts to an estimated \$10m., said Ansbacher, who maintains there are many similar cases abroad.

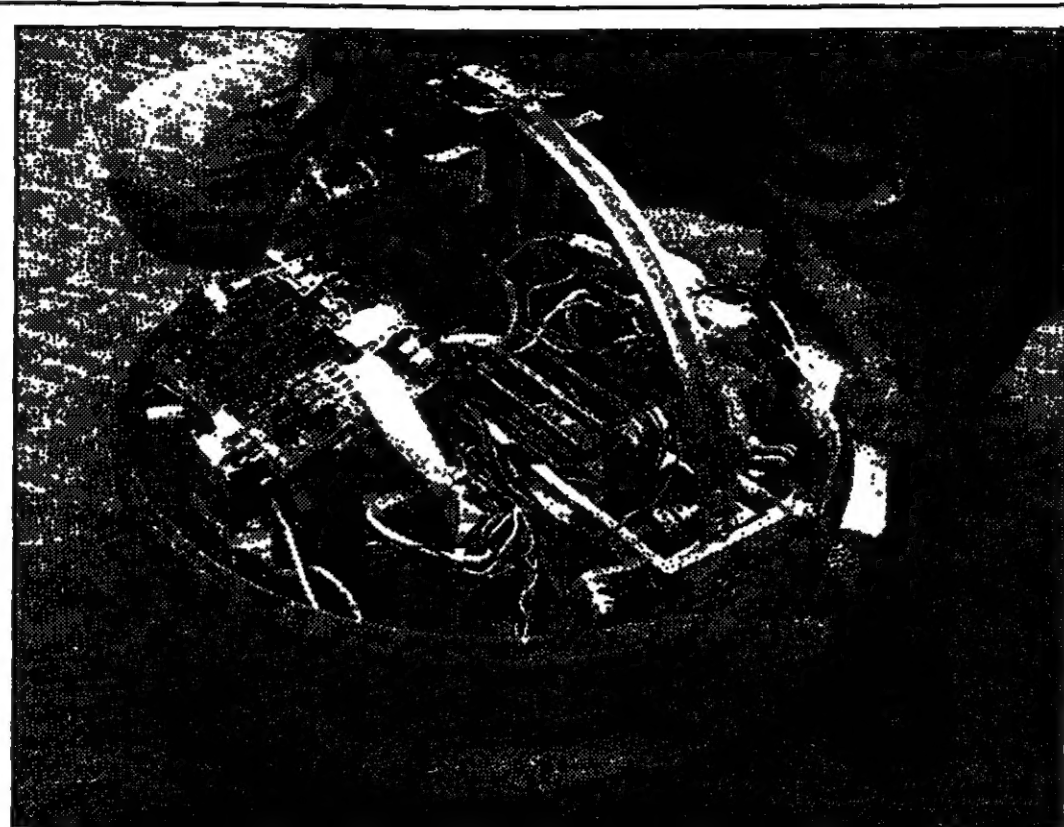
The decision to establish a fund comes within the two-week deadline MKs gave the company to produce an offer. The MKs threatened Generali with a boycott by all government and public organizations in Israel.

The company's failure to pay on

policies became particularly sensitive after Generali purchased Migdal Insurance from Bank Leumi last year.

The last-minute negotiations were not held in relation to the sum, but were called to address Kleiner's questions regarding the specific wording of the agreement and Herschson's request for time to fully study the documentation.

Prior to this decision, Migdal had refused to agree to pay families of Holocaust victims, whether they hold the relevant documentation or not.



### Sony close to creating round delivery robot

Sony yesterday shows off the computer it built inside the world's first spherical robot. The company says it is close to creating a round delivery robot which can move about homes or offices without endangering people. Magnets are attached at the top of its inner shell to keep its balance, and small objects can be placed on a plate atop the magnet for transport.

(Reuters)

## Ministry, IAI union try to stop share sale to Lockheed-Martin

By DROR MAROM

Opposition to foreign investment on the part of the Defense Ministry and the national workers union of Israel Aircraft Industries (IAI) threatens to halt negotiations between company management and Lockheed-Martin, economic and defense sources said yesterday.

The negotiations were revealed for the first time at the Paris Air Show by IAI board chairman Avigdor Ben-Gal.

Last year the Defense Ministry torpedoed Lockheed-Martin's attempts to acquire 40 percent of Israel Military Industries' heavy artillery division, on the grounds of opposition to exposing Israeli technology to foreigners.

As a matter of course, IAI's workers union opposes any moves toward privatization, outlined in an incorporation program prepared by company management.

The program is scheduled to go ahead in 1998.

Ben-Gal said on Monday that Lockheed-Martin, the world's largest defense aircraft corporation, with a \$30 billion turnover, is interested in acquiring IAI shares after privatization.

The IAI workers union yesterday sent an urgent telegram to Lockheed-Martin's management, warning the concern against buying IAI shares without first coordinating the move with company employees.

Union head Haim Katz distributed copies of the telegram to all Lockheed-Martin representatives attending the Paris Air Show.

Katz also told Lockheed-Martin representatives that since Ben-Gal's actions had been taken without consulting the union, Lockheed-Martin could hope to buy not a going concern, but empty factories.

Globes

## Microsoft to invest \$80 million in British lab

By PATRICIA REANEY

LONDON (Reuters) - Software giant Microsoft Corp. said yesterday it would invest \$80 million in establishing a research laboratory at Cambridge University.

The new venture, which will be known as Microsoft Research Ltd., is the company's first research complex outside the US and will form a base for its researchers in Europe.

It also marks the start of a close

collaboration with the British university, a renowned center for computer sciences. Nathan Myhrvold, Microsoft's chief technology officer, said.

Microsoft had considered other universities in the US and Europe but chose Cambridge because of its reputation, its talented researchers and students, and its role as the hub for more than 300 technology firms in eastern England.

The center will concentrate on developing new technologies, forecasting and making what the industry will need in the coming

decades. "We need to invest in new technology. We have one of the greatest commitments to research of any company in our industry," Myhrvold told a news conference. "We anticipate investing \$80 million."

Microsoft said it would also invest \$16m. in companies in the area. Half of that amount will be placed in Amadeus I, a new venture capital fund created to support early stage technology companies with global potential, and the remainder will be reserved for future investment opportunities.

Trade and Industry Minister

Margaret Beckett said she and Prime Minister Tony Blair welcomed Microsoft's decision. "I think they made the right decision in coming to Cambridge and coming to Britain," she told the news conference. "The scale [of the investment] is extremely welcome."

Roger Needham, a professor of computer systems in Cambridge's computer laboratory and a senior university official, will head Microsoft Research in Cambridge. Microsoft expects to recruit 40 of Europe's top researchers to work at the new lab, up to 25 in the first year.

Myhrvold said the new team will work on making computers

easier to use and more powerful, but their brief will be broad.

"We're going to hire the best people you can get and see what they want to do," added Needham.

Microsoft Research, the research arm of the company which was founded six years ago, will also create a European technical advisory board, or TAB, that will be composed of researchers and academics from across Europe.

The board will help to attract researchers to the project and to advise on which areas are important to the industry. "We're confident this will be a great success," said Alec Broers, vice chancellor of the university.

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| French franc   | 0.5755   | 0.5948    | 0.56      | 0.5837 |
| Japanese yen (100)   | 2.9880   | 3.0139    | 2.91      | 3.0051 |
| Dutch florin   | 1.7253   | 1.7542    | 1.69      | 1.7506 |
| Swiss franc  | 2.3280   | 2.3655    | 2.28      | 2.3523 |
| Swedish krona  | 0.4329   | 0.4409    | 0.42      | 0.4401 |
| Norwegian krona  | 0.4825   | 0.4701    | 0.45      | 0.4685 |
| Danish krona   | 0.5100   | 0.5183    | 0.50      | 0.5170 |
| Finnish mark   | 0.6408   | 0.6559    | 0.63      | 0.6577 |
| Canadian dollar  | 2.4300   | 2.4682    | 2.38      | 2.4523 |
| Australian dollar  | 2.5218   | 2.5625    | 2.47      | 2.5598 |
| S. African rand  | 0.7478   | 0.7587    | 0.67      | 0.7582 |
| Belgian franc (10)   | 0.9409   | 0.9561    | 0.92      | 0.9538 |
| Austrian schilling (10)  | 2.7585   | 2.8151    | 2.71      | 2.7973 |
| Italian lire (1000)  | 1.9839   | 2.0159    | 1.94      | 2.0128 |
| Jordanian dinar  | 4.7523   | 4.8250    | 4.69      | 4.8882 |
| Egyptian pound   | 0.9900   | 1.0500    | 0.98      | 1.0578 |
| ECU  | 3.7978   | 3.8591    | —         | —      |
| Irish punt   | 5.1088   | 5.1814    | 5.02      | 5.1848 |
| Spanish peseta (100)   | 2.2987   | 2.3356    | 2.25      | 2.3325 |
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Mekorot Water Co. Ltd. invites companies with appropriate facilities and experience to participate in a Tender for Annual Supplies 1997/98, as a frame agreement to supply from time to time, which Mekorot has the right to extend annually for an additional two years.

1. Tender No. 8/97 - Butterfly Valves  
The valves must comply with Israel Standard 1230 and meet all the standard requirements.  
According to our estimation, and without obligation, the annual purchasing amount will be approximately NIS 4,000,000.

2. Tender No. 9/97 - Gate Valves  
The valves must comply with Israel Standard 81 and meet all the standard requirements.  
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The quoted prices should be valid for one year from the date of the quotation.

The tender documents and inquiry specifications can be purchased for the amount of NIS 500, including VAT, per tender (non-refundable), from the Supply Dept., Mekorot Head Office, 9 Lincoln St., Tel Aviv, 2nd floor, room 214. The tender documents may be perused before purchase.

Bidders must attach to their bids a bond in the form of an unconditional bank guarantee from a major Israeli bank, in the amount of NIS 100,000 per tender, for a period of 90 days. In case of participation in both tenders, the total amount of the bank guarantee will not exceed NIS 100,000.

Bids must be submitted by 12 noon on July 28, 1997 and placed in the tender box in the Supply Department (and not sent by mail).

For additional details, please contact Eli Melemed, Tel. 03-623-0576.

No undertaking is given to accept the lowest or any bid.

Mekorot reserves the right to negotiate with parties whose bids are considered appropriate.

**Eli Melemed**  
Chairman, Tenders Committee







## SPORTS

in brief

## Overmars, Boamorte join Arsenal

LONDON (AP) — Dutch winger Marc Overmars and Portuguese striker Luis Boamorte yesterday became the latest foreign players to join Arsenal in the English Premier League.

Overmars, 24, joined the London club in a £7 million move from Ajax, where he won three Dutch league titles and the European Cup in five years.

Overmars, who signed a five-year deal with the Gunners, will link up with fellow Dutch star Dennis Bergkamp.

Boamorte, 20, came from Sporting Lisbon in a £1.75-million deal.

The new transfers bring Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger's summer spending past the £10-million mark following the signing of 26-year-old French defender Emmanuel Petit and Gilles Grimandi earlier this month.

## NHL has settled on four expansion cities

TORONTO (AP) — The NHL has chosen Nashville, Atlanta, St. Paul, Minnesota, and Columbus, Ohio, as its next four expansion sites, according to broadcast reports Monday.

NHL spokesman Arthur Piacus said the league would have no comment on the reports.

The Sports Network and CNN-SI said Nashville will start play in 1998, followed by Atlanta in 1999 and St. Paul and Columbus in 2000.

The league had also been considering bids from Houston and Oklahoma City.

## Red Sox slugger out with knee injury

BOSTON (AP) — Boston first baseman Mo Vaughn was scheduled to have knee surgery yesterday and that could deprive the last-place Red Sox of their best hitter for six weeks.

The arthroscopic procedure is intended to repair torn cartilage on the outer side of Vaughn's left knee, which locked up when he slid into home plate Sunday night and remained locked Monday morning, team physician Dr. Arthur Pappas said.

Pappas said the 1995 AL MVP will miss between two and six weeks. But he predicted it would be closer to six weeks because Vaughn's left knee is critical to his powerful swing.

Vaughn is fourth in the league with 20 homers and leads Boston with 45 RBIs. His .335 batting average was eighth in the AL and second on the Red Sox to Reggie Jefferson's .342 going into Monday's game.

## F1 driver Panis likely out until autumn

MONTREAL (AP) — Formula One driver Olivier Panis will likely be out of action until at least this fall after having surgery on both legs he broke in a crash at the Canadian Grand Prix.

"It will be six to 12 weeks before he is walking again," Dr. Pierre Ranger, the orthopedic surgeon who performed the operations, said Monday.

Ranger was careful not to speculate about how soon the 30-year-old Frenchman would be able to take the wheel for his Prost-Mugen Honda team.

But Ranger did give an idea about how long it takes most people to fully recover.

"I would say it's between two to four months to heal those fractures and get in shape," he said.

On the 52nd lap of Sunday's race, Panis hit the wall coming out of turn four at the Gilles Villeneuve circuit before skidding across the track and plowing into a tire barrier.

## Spanish minnows ham up original win bonus

MADRID (Reuters) — Extremadura are offering an original win bonus to the opponents of their rivals at the bottom of the Spanish first division — a leg of their home town Almeria's famous ham.

The threat of relegation has led club president Pedro Nieto to promise the hams to each of the players of Barcelona and Real Madrid for beating Rayo Vallecano and Celta Vigo respectively.

Third-party bonuses are banned in the Spanish game, but few commentators deny that their existence is widespread.

"I don't think the (Spanish Football) Federation will fine us for giving a ham ... we can't offer money," said Nieto.

To stay in the first division Extremadura need to beat Deportivo Coruna, and see the other results go in their favour next weekend.

## Record 188 teams in UEFA club competitions

GENEVA (Reuters) — A record 188 teams will begin the chase for European club trophies on July 9 with the draw for qualifying rounds of the Champions' League, Cup Winners' Cup and UEFA Cup competitions.

The new high — six more than last season — is primarily a result of a revamped Champions' League, which has increased from 16 to 24 teams.

European champions Borussia Dortmund of Germany and seven other national champions — Juventus (Italy), Real Madrid (Spain), Monaco (France), Bayern Munich (Germany), PSV Eindhoven (Netherlands), Porto (Portugal) and Manchester United (England) all qualify directly for the Champions' League group competition which will be determined by draw on August 29.

For the first time the runners-up from the eight top-ranked countries — Parma (Italy), Barcelona (Spain), Paris St Germain (France), Bayer Leverkusen (Germany), Feyenoord (Netherlands), Sporting Lisbon (Portugal), Newcastle (England) and Besiktas (Turkey) will also take part in the European Cup.

They go directly into the second qualifying round for a place in the Champions' League along with national champions Galatasaray (Turkey), Olympiakos Piraeus (Greece), Salzburg (Austria), Spartak Moscow (Russia), Liège (Belgium), Brondby (Denmark), IFK Gothenburg (Sweden),

Rosenborg Trondheim (Norway) and Sparta Prague (Czech Republic).

These 17 teams will be joined by 15 winners from the first qualifying round to be played on July 23 and 30. The 16 winners of second-round matches join the eight automatic entrants in the Champions' League, which is split into six groups of four.

The Cup Winners' Cup will see clubs from the 17 top-ranked nations qualify directly for the first round. The remaining 30 teams will take part in a qualifying round scheduled for August 14 and 28.

Led by champions Schalke 04 of Germany, a total of 102 teams will compete in the UEFA Cup.

The bulk of the teams, 79, qualify through domestic league competition with the remaining berths going to the 16 losers from the second qualifying round of the European Cup plus the three top finishers from the Intertoto Cup being played during the summer.

The final three places go to teams from the national associations which topped the Fair Play rankings.

Number of UEFA Cup places per country (based on coefficient rankings) Four teams: Italy, Spain, France, Three teams: Germany, Netherlands, Portugal, England, Turkey, Two teams: Greece, Austria, Russia, Belgium, Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Czech Republic, Switzerland, Poland, Scotland, Romania, Croatia, All other countries are allotted one team.

## Amstelveen, Edinburgh to host cricket World Cup matches

LONDON (Reuters) — Amstelveen in the Netherlands and Edinburgh will both host a match in the 1999 cricket World Cup.

At the official launch of the seventh World Cup at Lord's yesterday, tournament director Terry Blake said 42 matches would be staged at 21 venues with each of the 18 English counties hosting at least one match each.

The opening match between holders Sri Lanka and hosts England on May 14 and the final on June 20 will

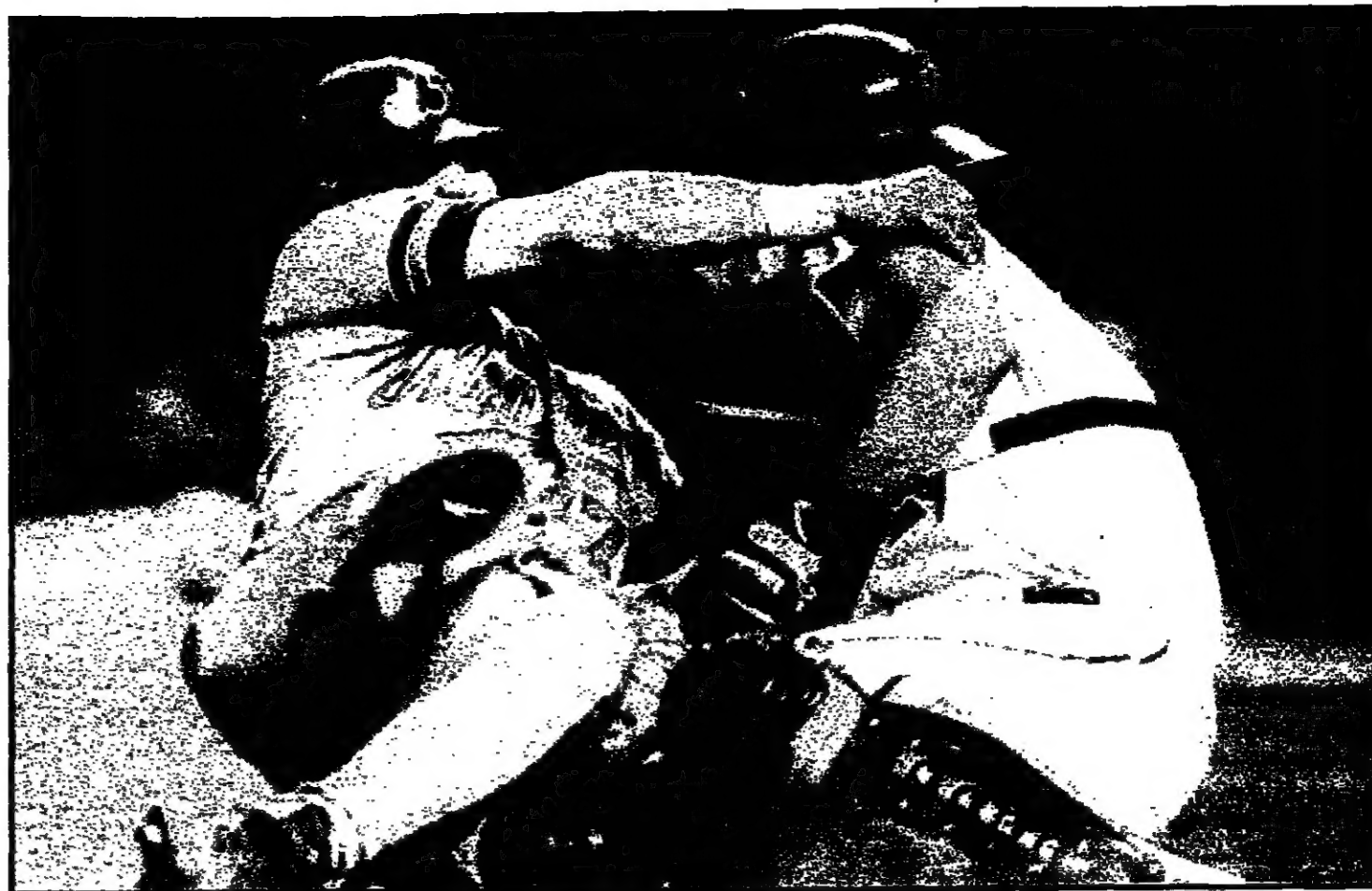
both be held at Lord's.

Amstelveen will host the group A match between South Africa and Kenya while first time qualifiers Scotland will play New Zealand in Edinburgh.

West Indies will take on Bangladesh at a venue in Ireland yet to be decided. There will be no day-night matches.

The 12 teams have been divided into groups of six who will play a round-robin competition.

The top three in each group will retain their points for the second stage in which they will play the qualifiers from the other group. The top four will proceed to the semifinals.



OCCUPATIONAL HAZARD — Montreal Expos' K.P. Santangelo (left) slams into Orioles' catcher Chris Hoiles while trying to score from third base on an infield grounder in the eighth inning. Santangelo was thrown out but the Expos went on to win 6-4. (Reuters)

## Intracity rivalries highlight interleague games

NEW YORK (Reuters) — Eagerly anticipated intracity rivalries took center stage on the interleague schedule Monday as the Chicago White Sox hosted the Chicago Cubs and the New York Yankees visited the New York Mets in games that count.

Cubs 8, White Sox 3

At Comiskey Park, Ryne Sandberg had three hits and scored twice and Kevin Foster won for the fifth time in six decisions as the Cubs beat the White Sox 8-3 in the first meeting between the cross-town rivals in 91 years.

Brian McRae had three hits and drove in a pair of runs for the Cubs, who got 11 hits and seven runs against former Cub pitcher Jaime Navarro.

Both teams wore old-style uniforms to mark the historic game, with the White Sox wearing replicas of their 1917 uniforms and the Cubs sporting outfits circa 1911.

Foster (8-4) allowed just three runs

and seven hits over six innings. Navarro (4-6) struck out six in 7 1/3 innings but allowed the Cubs to jump to a 6-0 lead by the third inning.

Mets 6, Yankees 0

At Yankee Stadium, Dave Mlicki notched his first career shutout and complete game and Todd Hundley

stole home in a three-run first inning as the Mets bested the Yankees 6-0 in the first contest between New York teams in 40 years.

The last time two New York clubs met in the regular season, the New York Giants beat the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1957.

This marked the first "subway series" game at Yankee Stadium since the Yankees faced Brooklyn in the 1956 World Series.

Mlicki allowed four hits through seven innings and finished with a nine-inning shutout. He had not pitched a shutout or complete game in 132 previous starts.

John Olerud had two hits and three RBIs as the Mets scored three times in the first off Yankees ace Andy Pettitte (8-4), who was tagged for five runs and eight hits in seven innings.

Expos 6, Orioles 4

In Baltimore, Mike Lansing hit a two-run homer and rookie Ryan McGuire added a solo shot as the Montreal Expos notched their 10th straight win, a 6-4 triumph over the Orioles.

McGuire has hit in all 11 games since he was recalled from the minors, going 17-for-38 (.447).

Chris Hoiles and B.J. Surhoff homered for Baltimore.

## Wimbledon draw: Sampras dodges big-serving rivals

LONDON (Reuters) — Top seed Pete Sampras managed to avoid several potential threats to his Wimbledon title prospects yesterday but the men's singles draw for next week's championships was less kind to a clutch of other recent grand slam champions.

Sampras will begin his pursuit of a fourth singles title in five years at the All England Club with a first round match against Sweden's Mikael Tillstrom, glad to have dodged several big-serving names in the opposite half of the draw.

The American world No. 1 is likely to have to meet Boris Becker in the last eight but can forget about the likes of Mark Philippoussis, second seed Goran Ivanisevic and defending champion Richard

Krajicek until the final — if he gets that far.

Philippoussis, the Australian hopeful who beat Ivanisevic in the final at Queen's Club on Sunday, will instead find himself involved in a heavy artillery contest with Britain's Greg Rusedski in the opening round, a showdown which seems certain to be staged on Center Court.

Either Michael Stich, the 1991 Wimbledon champion, or Jim Courier, with four grand slam titles to his credit, will also fall at the first hurdle after being drawn to face each other in the same quarter of the draw as both Krajicek and new French Open champion Gustavo Kuerten of Brazil.

Krajicek meets Germany's Marcello Craca while Kuerten, who will have to find an alternative to the bright blue and yellow ensemble he wore in Paris, will face the promising American Justin Gimelstob on his first visit to Wimbledon.

Michael Chang, seeded fifth, will also have little opportunity to feel his way into the tournament after being drawn against Australian Todd Woodbridge who has won the men's doubles title at Wimbledon with Mark Woodforde for the past four years.

Andre Agassi, barely sighted on court since his marriage to actress Brooke Shields, must face Australian Open finalist Carlos Moya in the first round, assuming he does not follow the example of Sweden's Magnus Larsson who withdrew yesterday.

In the women's singles, Martina Hingis

also looks to have a relatively comfortable path to the last four. But the bottom half of the draw looks much tighter.

Monica Seles shares her quarter with Arantxa Sanchez Vicario and Mary Pierce, with Jana Novotna and Amanda Coetzer of South Africa also lurking in the same half.

If the seeding committee are correct the quarter-final line-ups will be as follows: Mea's singles: Pete Sampras v Boris Becker; Yevgeny Kafelnikov v Michael Chang; Thomas Muster v Richard Krajicek; Mark Philippoussis v Goran Ivanisevic.

Women's singles: Martina Hingis v Lindsay Davenport; Iva Majoli v Anke Huber; Amanda Coetzer v Jana Novotna; Arantxa Sanchez Vicario v Monica Seles.

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Jerusalem Area

## RENTALS

FOR TOURISTS — REHAVA, in center, 4, beautiful, furnished (+ Succa), from July. Tel. 08-947-9873 (NS).

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Tel Aviv

## SALES

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## RENTALS

ASHKELON, FURNISHED, DETACHED villa, 4 rooms, near sea, garage. Tel. (07) 573-3017.

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Tel Aviv

## HOUSEHOLD HELP

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## IMMEDIATE JOBS AVAILABLE, friendly families, best conditions, the agency with a heart for the Au Pairs. Call Hama. Tel. (03) 565-9537.

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## MISCELLANEOUS

General

## SEEKING

SEARCH: LOTTI MOLLER, born 1922 Hamburg, liberated Celia, immigrated to Jerusalem 1957. Reply to: Edith (Lofort) Plesner RD1, Box 139 Cherry Valley, NY 12320, U.S.A.

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General

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1988 CHEVY ASTRO, 4X4, loaded, leaving the country; must see; jeep — 1988. Tel. 050-652-154.

## VEHICLES

Jerusalem

## UNRESTRICTED

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# CRITIC'S CHOICE

## CLASSICAL MUSIC

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

After leading the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra in a most exciting and well-played Mendelssohn program last week, Yuri Achronovitch returns to the JSO podium for subscription concerts featuring excerpts from the three Tchaikovsky popular full-length ballets: *Swan Lake*, *Sleeping Beauty*, and *The Nutcracker*. Pianist Jeffrey Segal plays the Gershwin piano concerto in F. Tonight and tomorrow at 8 at the Henry Crown Symphony Hall in Jerusalem.

## DEBATE

HELEN KAYE

The last of the Emil Habibi memorial debates is on Arabic theater and the emergence of a bicultural dialogue. It is to be chaired by Arab Theater artistic director Yasser Abu-Warda. At the Jerusalem Khan tonight at 8:30. (Hebrew)

## DANCE

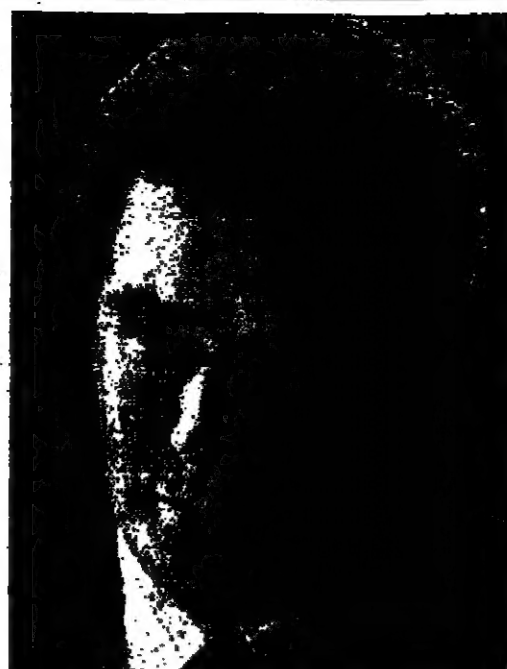
HELEN KAYE

If you have never seen Ohad Naharin's bright new work, you are missing out. The Batsheva Dance production is at the Tel Aviv Cinemas tonight, tomorrow, and Saturday at 9 and on Friday at 10 p.m.

## FILM

ADINA HOFFMAN

\*\*\* GHOSTS FROM THE PAST \*\*\* There's nothing sexy or sensational about this Rob Reiner film, a straight-ahead recounting of the belated 1994 attempt to bring to justice the white supremacist responsible for the 1963 murder of civil rights activist Medgar Evers. Visually, structurally, and rhythmically, the picture is merely functional and could easily pass as made-for-TV movie. Despite its stylistic limitations, though, *Ghosts* comes closer to animating honestly the emotional legacy of racism and oppression than many slicker films about the civil rights movement. Working from a well-researched, adequately written script by Lewis Colick, Reiner takes a true story and attempts to tell it as clearly as possible. He assumes — correctly in this case — that an unadorned recreation of the actual events is bound to be much more compelling than a bogus load of pseudo-



As an assistant DA, Alec Baldwin seeks justice in "Ghosts from the Past."

do-documentary pap. The result is an engrossing character drama. With Alec Baldwin, Whoopi Goldberg, James Woods and a fine cast of supporting players. Released in the US as *Ghosts of Mississippi*. (English dialogue, Hebrew subtitles. Parental guidance suggested.)

## TELEVISION

ELANA CHIPMAN

Channel 2 has inaugurated its summer season this week with a series of light entertainment alongside some quality shows. Tonight at 8:30 the channel airs *Caroline in the City*, an American sitcom situated in New York City. Caroline is a single woman who has a successful career as a magazine illustrator and a slightly less successful, but turbulent, love life.

Also airing tonight at 10:10 on Channel 2 is the second season of the immensely successful Israeli show, *Hafich* ("Backwards") about a group of young singles in Tel Aviv and their surreal adventures. In this season, new characters enter the scene and they all set out on over more bizarre endeavors. Tonight's show begins with a fisherman pulling out of the ocean a strange box which turns out to contain Emil's video diary from the last season. He becomes so intrigued that he sets out on a search for her.

## TV

### CHANNEL 1

8:30 News flash  
8:31 News in Arabic  
8:45 Exercise Time  
7:00 Good Morning Israel

### EDUCATIONAL TV

8:00 Hands Off Lamin  
8:30 How to Draw  
Cartoons  
9:00 Social Sciences  
9:30 English  
9:45 For the young young  
10:15 100 Years of  
Zionism  
11:15 Geography  
11:40 Judaism  
12:05 Music  
12:35 Science and  
Technology  
13:00 Plain Clothes  
13:50 Cartoons  
14:20 Kitty Cat and  
Tommy  
14:35 Quaint Quack  
15:00 Animals

### CHANNEL 1

15:30 Motormen from  
Mars  
15:55 Body  
16:00 Garfield  
16:05 Velociraptor  
16:30 Super Ben  
16:59 A New Evening  
17:34 Zappy Culture  
18:15 News in English

### ARABIC PROGRAMS

18:30 Family Matters  
19:00 News

### HEBREW PROGRAMS

18:30 News flash  
19:01 Newsflash  
19:05 News  
20:00 News  
20:45 Quiz of the  
Century  
20:50 Conference Call  
21:01 The Cape  
22:00 Quiz of the  
Century  
22:10 No Man's Land  
22:30 Pacific Station  
22:45 Quiz of the  
Century  
23:00 News  
00:00 Daily Verse

### CHANNEL 2

6:15 Today's programs  
7:00 Johnny Quest  
7:30 This Morning  
8:00 Fivka Michael  
8:30 Sesame Street  
10:45 Dynasty  
11:40 Yaron London's  
Parliament  
12:45 Israeli music  
13:00 Kate and Allie  
13:30 Junior News  
14:00 Degrassi Junior  
High  
14:30 The Ties  
15:00 The Ties and Mitch  
15:20 The Ties  
16:00 The Bold and  
the Beautiful  
17:00 News magazine  
with Ruti Reshef  
17:30 Sport TV  
18:00 Roseanne  
18:30 Touched by an  
Angel  
19:25 Prime Time  
20:00 News  
20:05 Time in the  
City - new comedy  
about a '90s career  
girl in New York  
21:05 Wheel of  
Fortune  
22:10 Backwards -  
new season  
22:48 NYPD  
23:43 Time of the  
Century (Hebrew)  
1981 - an advertising  
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killed while on reserve  
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many old characters  
in his unit. With Eli  
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00:00 News  
00:05 Time of the  
Century - cont'd.  
1:50 Midnight Blues  
2:40 Storm in a  
Bathhouse - comedy  
about love, life and  
dicks  
3:15 On the Edge of  
the Shell  
3:45 The Young and  
the Restless (Heb)  
4:00 Days of Our  
Lives (Heb)  
11:15 Zingara (Heb)  
12:00 Barney Jones  
12:45 The Streets of  
San Francisco  
13:05 Wings  
14:00 Dallas  
14:50 Days of Our  
Lives  
15:00 The Henry  
15:30 Hercules (Heb)  
16:45 Zingara  
17:30 Good Evening  
with Guy Pine (Heb)  
18:00 Local broadcast  
from Guy Pine  
18:15 The Young and  
the Restless  
20:00 Sunset Beach  
20:50 Melrose Place  
21:01 Profiler  
22:30 Love Story with  
Yossi Yossi  
23:00 Seinfeld  
23:25 Babylon 5  
00:15 The Streets of  
San Francisco  
1:05 Barney Jones

### JORDAN TV

15:30 Holy Koran  
15:35 French cartoons  
17:00 Border Town  
18:00 French programs  
19:00 News in French  
19:30 News headlines

### MOVIE CHANNEL (4)

11:30 Amorel (1993)

## MIDDLE EAST TV

### CHANNEL 1

8:30 News flash  
8:31 News in Arabic  
8:45 Exercise Time  
7:00 Good Morning Israel

### EDUCATIONAL TV

8:00 Hands Off Lamin  
8:30 How to Draw  
Cartoons  
9:00 Social Sciences  
9:30 English  
9:45 For the young young  
10:15 100 Years of  
Zionism  
11:15 Geography  
11:40 Judaism  
12:05 Music  
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Technology  
13:00 Plain Clothes  
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Tommy  
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15:00 Animals

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18:15 News in English

### ARABIC PROGRAMS

18:30 Family Matters  
19:00 News

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21:01 The Cape  
22:00 Quiz of the  
Century  
22:10 No Man's Land  
22:30 Pacific Station  
22:45 Quiz of the  
Century  
23:00 News  
00:00 Daily Verse

### CHANNEL 2

6:15 Today's programs  
7:00 Johnny Quest  
7:30 This Morning  
8:00 Fivka Michael  
8:30 Sesame Street  
10:45 Dynasty  
11:40 Yaron London's  
Parliament  
12:45 Israeli music  
13:00 Kate and Allie  
13:30 Junior News  
14:00 Degrassi Junior  
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14:35 Quaint Quack  
15:00 Animals

### CHANNEL 1

15:30 Motormen from  
Mars  
15:55 Body  
16:00 Garfield  
16:05 Velociraptor  
16:30 Super Ben  
16:59 A New Evening  
17:34 Zappy Culture  
18:15 News in English

### ARABIC PROGRAMS

18:30 Family Matters  
19:00 News

### HEBREW PROGRAMS

18:30 News flash  
19:01 Newsflash  
19:05 News  
20:00 News  
20:45 Quiz of the  
Century  
20:50 Conference Call  
21:01 The Cape  
22:00 Quiz of the  
Century  
22:10 No Man's Land  
22:30 Pacific Station  
22:45 Quiz of the  
Century  
23:00 News  
00:00 Daily Verse

### CHANNEL 2

6:15 Today's programs  
7:00 Johnny Quest  
7:30 This Morning  
8:00 Fivka Michael  
8:30 Sesame Street  
10:45 Dynasty  
11:40 Yaron London's  
Parliament  
12:45 Israeli music  
13:00 Kate and Allie  
13:30 Junior News  
14:00 Degrassi Junior  
High  
14:30 The Ties  
15:00 The Ties and Mitch  
15:20 The Ties  
16:00 The Bold and  
the Beautiful  
17:00 News magazine  
with Ruti Reshef  
17:30 Sport TV  
18:00 Roseanne  
18:30 Touched by an  
Angel  
19:25 Prime Time  
20:00 News  
20:05 Time in the  
City - new comedy  
about a '90s career  
girl in New York  
21:05 Wheel of  
Fortune  
22:10 Backwards -  
new season  
22:48 NYPD  
23:43 Time of the  
Century (Hebrew)  
1981 - an advertising  
executive who feels  
sure that he will be  
killed while on reserve  
duty. He is one of  
many old characters  
in his unit. With Eli  
Yazpan.  
00:00 News  
00:05 Time of the  
Century - cont'd.  
1:50 Midnight Blues  
2:40 Storm in a  
Bathhouse - comedy  
about love, life and  
dicks  
3:15 On the Edge of  
the Shell  
3:45 The Young and  
the Restless (Heb)  
4:00 Days of Our  
Lives (Heb)  
11:15 Zingara (Heb)  
12:00 Barney Jones  
12:45 The Streets of  
San Francisco  
13:05 Wings  
14:00 Dallas  
14:50 Days of Our  
Lives  
15:00 The Henry  
15:30 Hercules (Heb)  
16:45 Zingara  
17:30 Good Evening  
with Guy Pine (Heb)  
18:00 Local broadcast  
from Guy Pine  
18:15 The Young and  
the Restless  
20:00 Sunset Beach  
20:50 Melrose Place  
21:01 Profiler  
22:30 Love Story with  
Yossi Yossi  
23:00 Seinfeld  
23:25 Babylon 5  
00:15 The Streets of  
San Francisco  
1:05 Barney Jones

### JORDAN TV

15:30 Holy Koran  
15:35 French cartoons  
17:00 Border Town  
18:00 French programs  
19:00 News in French  
19:30 News headlines

### MOVIE CHANNEL (4)

11:30 Amorel (1993)

## SEEING STARS

### CHANNEL 1

8:30 News flash  
8:31 News in Arabic  
8:45 Exercise Time  
7:00 Good Morning Israel

### EDUCATIONAL TV

8:00 Hands Off Lamin  
8:30 How to Draw  
Cartoons  
9:00 Social Sciences  
9:30 English  
9:45 For the young young  
10:15 100 Years of  
Zionism  
11:15 Geography  
11:40 Judaism  
12:05 Music  
12:35 Science and  
Technology  
13:00 Plain Clothes  
13:50 Cartoons  
14:20 Kitty Cat and  
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12:00 Barney Jones  
12:4



# NEWS

in brief

## Absorption center squatters continue protest

The Jewish Agency yesterday hired a security firm to prevent confrontations between new immigrants living in the Mevasseret Zion absorption center and homeless squatters who broke into the center over the weekend and took over several unoccupied apartments. On Monday night, a recent immigrant from the US attacked one of the squatters, whom he caught trying to steal a fuse from his fuse box, with a baseball bat. The alleged thief was hospitalized.

Mediation attempts continued yesterday, while squatters declared they would forcefully resist attempts to remove them. They have threatened to blow up cooking gas canisters in the apartments they have taken over. *Itim*

## Two more driving instructors arrested

Two more driving instructors were arrested yesterday in the ongoing probe into corruption in Licensing Bureaus in the North. The two — one from Karnei and the other from Acre — are suspected of forging documents for their students to present at driving tests. They will face remand hearings today. *Itim*

## Show-cause order over council appointment

The High Court of Justice yesterday issued a show-cause order demanding that a ministerial committee explain within 10 days its decision that Dr. Gila Joyce Brenner should not be appointed to the Netanya Religious Council. The ruling was in response to a petition from Brenner, a Reform Jew, and Maretz's Netanya branch, which selected Brenner to represent it on the council. *Itim*

## TA burial society workers strike

Tel Aviv burial society workers remained on strike for a second day yesterday to protest the failure to reach a new labor contract. On Sunday, Tel Aviv Labor Court rejected management's request for an injunction against the strike, instead ordering that intensive negotiations between the sides be held. The workers are refusing to collect bodies; morgues are closed; and phones are not being answered. But funerals are still going on as usual. *Itim*

## Bereaved parents want probe findings carried out

The Tzuriano and Rosenberg families, whose airmen sons died in a training accident in 1992, yesterday demanded that Chief of Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak, OC Air Force Maj.-Gen. Eitan Ben-Elihu, and Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai immediately implement the inquiry commission's recommendations. The families said at a press conference that they accept the Vinograd Commission's findings, and insist the above officials determine that the flight mechanic involved in the accident not continue to serve in that capacity. Corporals Gil Tzuriano and Assaf Rosenberg fell to their deaths when a helicopter cable snapped during a night training exercise. *Itim*

## Third brother receives new liver

The third of three brothers yesterday underwent a liver transplant at the Rabin Medical Center-Beitlissan Campus in Petah Tikva. Eli Sa'ada, whose liver function collapsed due to cirrhosis caused by complications of hepatitis B, was doing well after the operation. His two brothers, Yitzhak and Herzl, who received new livers in recent years after complications of hepatitis B, are now well and fully functioning. *Judy Siegel*

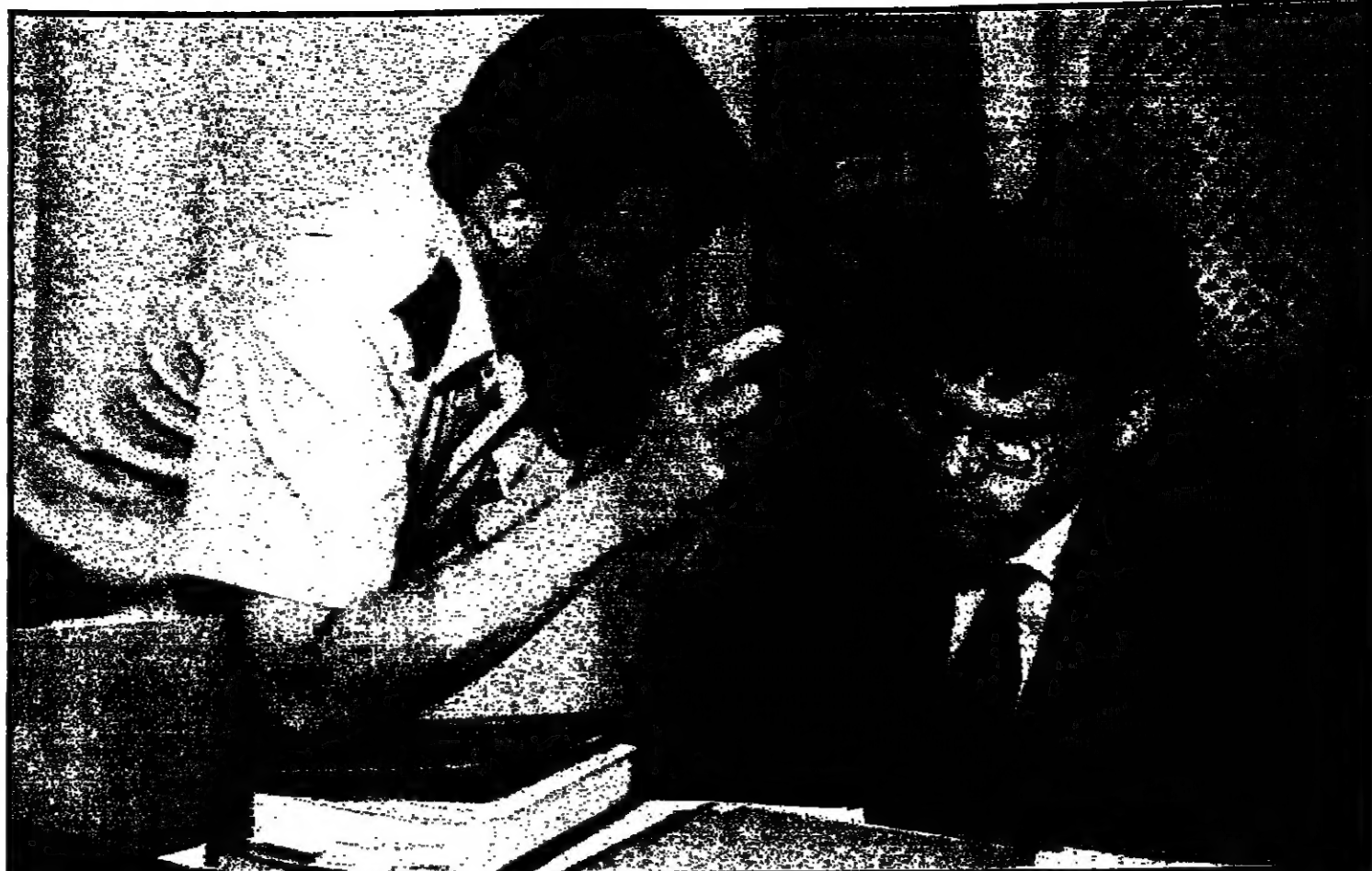
## Bill to toughen child-labor law passes 1st reading

The Knesset yesterday unanimously passed first reading of a law which calls for a NIS 30,000 fine or one-year imprisonment for someone who employs a child under the age of 15 without the appropriate permit from the Labor and Social Affairs Ministry or for employing a child in a physically or mentally dangerous condition.

Labor and Social Affairs Minister Eli Yishai presented the bill in the name of the government. The bill, based on the international charter for children's rights, proposes a major revision in child employment. It also includes a clause to ban children from appearing in commercials or performances without a permit from the minister. *Liat Collins*

## MKs meet families of missing Yemenite children

MKs met yesterday with relatives of Yemenite immigrant children who disappeared in the early years of the State. One participant, Ya'acov Sivilia, said his family had been told his brother had died and was buried and discovered 45 years later that he was alive. He had apparently been adopted for a large sum of money. *Liat Collins*



Police Supt. Meir Gilboa confers with a representative of the State Attorney's Office before yesterday's Supreme Court hearing of Zvi Ben-Ari's appeal against his remand. (Brian Handler)

# Ben-Ari withdraws appeal against his remand

By RAINE MARCUS and Itim

Penina Daburin, the lawyer for Zvi Ben-Ari (previously known as Gregory Lerner), yesterday withdrew his appeal to the Supreme Court against the extension of his remand.

Ben-Ari is suspected of committing an \$85 million bank fraud, the murder of a banker in Russia, and of bribing bank managers and civil servants.

The withdrawal followed comments by Justice Eliyahu Mazza, who indicated there is no basis for his contention that he was discriminated against because the others involved in

the case were freed on bail.

Mazza noted that treating defendants differently is common practice. He said that the leader of a group of criminals is often the only one arrested, especially if he pulled the others after him, or if he was the one who actually committed the crime and the others only assisted him.

Meanwhile, Industry and Trade Minister Nathan Sharansky, head of Yisrael Ba'aliya, will be summoned by police this week to give evidence regarding donations he allegedly received from Ben-Ari.

Sharansky is expected to be the second politi-

cian to give evidence; Labor MK Nissim Zivili already has given evidence.

Police sources emphasized that ministers and politicians will at this stage be called only to give evidence, and will not be questioned under caution as suspects.

The politicians, they said, will be summoned in an effort to shed light on Ben-Ari's alleged illegal activities.

Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein met with National Investigations Chief Sando Mazor yesterday to determine procedures, since the summoning of political figures, even if they are not suspects, is a sensitive issue.

## Parents call nationwide school strike today

The National Parents Organization (NPO) yesterday called for a strike of the entire educational system today to protest expected cuts in next year's education budget. The organization also said it would strike again next Tuesday and Friday if the cuts are not called off.

The strike is to affect all schools, except for kindergartens and special education classes. Matriculation examinations, end-of-year parties, and excursions are to be held as usual.

Education Ministry Director-General Ben-Zion Dell condemned the strike plans and called on the nation's parents to send their children to school, "and not be drawn after the slogans of a bunch of parents' committees." Dell said the parents' organization has no "statutory or moral right" to call a strike.

Last week NPO chairman Shai Lachman wrote to the prime minister and ministers of finance and education claiming that next year's budget and teaching-hour cuts would seriously harm the system. "The planned cuts will necessarily increase classroom congestion and severely impair development and equipment programs in the schools," Lachman wrote, adding, "We will not accept turning the wheel backward."

Dell said in response that the NPO was basing its reaction on "rumors and partial reports." He argued that the ministry's budget increase surpassed the cuts and said teaching hours would not be reduced.

"This is a sarcastic and cynical use of pupils," Dell said, calling on the parents to call off the strike and meet with him. Meanwhile, sanctions by junior lecturers at Tel Aviv, Haifa, and Hebrew universities continued yesterday. *(Itim)*

## Two NY rabbis held for money laundering

By MARILYN HENRY

NEW YORK — Two haredi rabbis have been charged with laundering \$1.75 million in Colombian drug profits through the bank accounts of a yeshiva and synagogue in Borough Park, Brooklyn, federal prosecutors here said on Monday.

"Money launderers are the indispensable partners of major drug traffickers, and the cynical act of using religious institutions to conceal drug proceeds is particularly reprehensible," said US Attorney Zachary Carter.

Monday's announcement was the third government charge against figures in the metropolitan Orthodox community in the last six months.

Twelve men were charged in the money-laundering scheme. Five were said to be New York representatives of Colombian drug operations; three were charged with being intermediaries; and four — including

the rabbis — had close ties to the haredi community in Borough Park, *The New York Times* reported.

Rabbi Mair Reiss, 47, and Rabbi Bernard Grunfeld, 64, both of Brooklyn, and Abraham Reiss, 48, of Manhattan, laundered \$750,000, through the accounts of Chaim Shel Shulem, a religious association headed by Grunfeld, Carter said. They also are alleged to have deposited, then withdrawn, \$1 million through the accounts of the Bobover Yeshiva and Congregation Eitz Chaim. These were allegedly made in more than 95 cash transactions in amounts under \$10,000.

The amounts are significant because transactions over \$10,000 must be reported to federal authorities.

The federal investigation began in 1994, when agents detected a pattern of cash deposits and withdrawals in the bank accounts of the synagogue and yeshiva.

| WEATHER    |       | Golden    |
|------------|-------|-----------|
|            |       | 17-25     |
| Haifa      | 20-25 | Tiberias  |
|            |       | 22-35     |
| Afula      | 21-33 |           |
|            |       | Samaria   |
|            |       | 19-31     |
| Tel Aviv   | 20-28 |           |
|            |       | Jerusalem |
|            |       | 19-30     |
| Beer Sheva | 18-33 |           |
|            |       | Dead Sea  |
|            |       | 25-40     |
| Elat       | 25-40 |           |

Forecast: Partly cloudy to clear.

## AROUND THE WORLD

|              | Low   | High  |        |
|--------------|-------|-------|--------|
| Amsterdam    | 06-43 | 18-84 | cloudy |
| Berlin       | 10-20 | 25-35 | rain   |
| Buenos Aires | 10-20 | 15-25 | clear  |
| Calcutta     | 22-24 | 27-31 | clear  |
| Chicago      | 06-46 | 18-31 | cloudy |
| Copenhagen   | 14-27 | 23-73 | cloudy |
| Helsinki     | 11-22 | 23-73 | clear  |
| Hong Kong    | 22-73 | 24-75 | rain   |
| London       | 06-46 | 18-31 | cloudy |
| Los Angeles  | 18-24 | 29-81 | clear  |
| Madrid       | 10-20 | 27-81 | cloudy |
| Moscow       | 18-21 | 20-73 | cloudy |
| New York     | 18-21 | 20-73 | rain   |
| Paris        | 10-20 | 15-25 | rain   |
| Rome         | 20-29 | 31-88 | rain   |
| Stockholm    | 10-20 | 15-25 | rain   |
| Sydney       | 09-45 | 15-59 | rain   |
| Tokyo        | 18-24 | 29-81 | cloudy |
| Tyrrone      | 18-24 | 29-81 | cloudy |
| Vienna       | 15-26 | 18-35 | rain   |

## Winning cards, numbers

The winning cards in yesterday's Chance draw (16/97) were the eight of spades, queen of hearts, jack of diamonds, and ace of clubs. The results of the second draw (168/97) were the seven of spades, queen of hearts, ace of diamonds, and queen of clubs.

In yesterday's lotto draw, the winning numbers were 1, 19, 21, 25, 28, and 37. The additional number was 11.



## WZO forum opens

Rami Kornblum, director-general of the World Zionist Organization's Organization Department, addresses delegates at the opening session of the Zionist General Council at Jerusalem's Renaissance Hotel yesterday. The Zionist General Council is the WZO's governing body. *(Joe Makolm)*

## Immigrants protest Meretz propaganda

Election propaganda by Meretz activists at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem has roused the anger of Amit, the students' immigrant party, and others. The flyer shows a caricature resembling Avigdor Lieberman, director-general of the Prime Minister's Office, recalling in very poor Hebrew the days in which the Likud-affiliated party headed the students' union. The character says: "Then we sorted everybody out. Leftists, look who's the boss here!"

Amit has asked for an apology, saying the style was offensive. "Is the war against racism just a slogan when it comes to Jews who immigrated from the CIS?" Amit asked in a counter flyer. The party said it is insulting to laugh at immigrants for the way they speak Hebrew. *Liat Collins*

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